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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Hospital back on the grid

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. succeeded yesterday in bringing the local hospital back on the power grid, just 11 days after Typhoon Soudelor crippled the island's power generation and distribution system.

"The hospital is back online," acting CUC executive director John Riegel confirmed yesterday afternoon.

Power Plant 4—which generates power for the hospital—is at 4 megawatt capacity as of press time yesterday, according to Riegel.

The hospital is now drawing about 1 megawatt of energy, Riegel said. It had been relying on its generator.

About 16 power poles have also been hooked up from the power plant to the hospital.

"I compliment everyone involved," Riegel said. "The people at the power plant, all the power plant operators who got that thing running. I want to compliment [Guam Power Authority] for all their hard work coming here and putting up the

See HOSPITAL on Page 4

HELPING HANDS

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

U.S. Marines conduct cleanup operation at Marianas High School, which was among the many schools on Saipan littered with debris after Typhoon Soudelor's destruction.

See story on Page 14

Soudelor damage consistent with a Category 3 typhoon

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

While the National Weather Service in Guam ruled out that Typhoon Soudelor brought in super typhoon or Category 5-strength winds when it hit Saipan last week, damage sustained by the island is consistent with a Category 3 typhoon.

This is stronger than earlier forecasted as Soudelor was only classified as a Category 2 as it was approaching the CNMI.

Chip Guard, warning coordination meteorologist of the NWS Forecast Office Guam, and Dr. Mark Lander of the Water and Environmental Research Institute arrived on Saipan Monday and went around the island to conduct their assessment.

The two meteorologists told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview yesterday that damage on the island as well as the pressure recorded was consistent with a Category 3—which has winds of up to 120 miles per hour and gusts of 150 miles per hour.

Prior to landfall, an update of 105 miles per hour maximum winds and 120 miles per hour gusts was given out by NWS.

They said that Category 3 is their baseline and it can also be strong as a Category 4 but not as strong as a Category 5 on the Saffir-Simpson scale.

Lander said they ruled out

See SOUDELOR on Page 4

FEMA registrants hit 4.4K; inspection set for 2.6K homes

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

Registrants for individual federal assistance has reached 4,400 and 2,600 households validated for inspection.

Stephen DeBlasio, federal coordinating officer of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said the figures are the latest as of Thursday.

DeBlasio said that FEMA will continue to encourage registrations for individual assistance.

He explained that as soon as an individual registers, this automatically generates an order for validation and inspection by a FEMA team. The FEMA team will gather all documents, and as soon as they gather these, funding will follow.

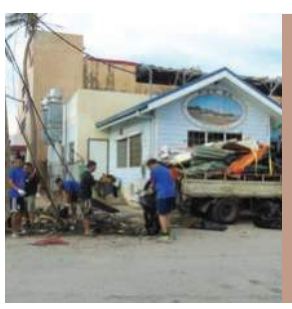
FEMA is also addressing concerns about isolated households or individuals that do not have telephones or any means of transportation by conducting visits.

He said teams from FEMA will visit isolated communities. However, DeBlasio said this will be on a "case-to-case" and "family-to-family" basis.

"Aside from these communities, we will continue to visit the shelters and coordinate with the American Red Cross on how to

See FEMA on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Tan Holdings initiates several cleanup drives in various sites on Saipan.

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NATION

Former President Jimmy Carter announces he has cancer that has spread.

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ASIA

At least 44 are killed after warehouse blasts hit a Chinese port.

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Local

CUC sets hours for water service

Following the completion of extensive line testing, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. announced yesterday the schedule for limited water service in the villages of San Antonio, Chalan Kanoa, Suspe, Oleai, San Jose, and Chalan Kiya.

The village of San Antonio will receive water between the hours of 8am and 1pm daily.

The villages of Chalan Kanoa, Susupe, San Jose, and Oleai will receive water on a rotating schedule that will change every other day, as follows:

■ Chalan Kanoa will receive water between the hours of 6pm and 8am on days with odd numbers, and 1pm to 6pm on days with even numbers.

■ The villages of Susupe, San Jose, and Oleai will receive water between the hours of 1pm and 6pm on days with odd numbers, and between the hours of 6pm and 8am on days with even numbers.

The village of Chalan Kiya receives water from a direct feed from the Dueñas wells, which allows CUC to provide daily 24-hour water service to the village's lower elevations.

Please note that the limited water service hours are subject to change based on the volume of water coming into CUC's tanks.

Additional locations

The expansion of limited water service will continue as Engineering and Operations personnel attempt to pressurize the water lines in the vicinity of Capital Hill, Kagman, and Marpi. In advance of the testing process, CUC asks that all household water faucets and hose bibs in the area are turned off as water begins to fill the distribution lines.

In the coming days and weeks, CUC will continue to expand limited water service to Saipan. Within the next week, CUC expects to provide water to Navy Hill, Chinatown, Upper Miha, As Matuis, San Roque, Tanapag, Capital Hill, Kagman, and As Teo.

Safety precaution

As a precaution, all water provided by CUC will need to be sanitized until further notice through the use of chlorine bleach or boiling before it can be used by the community.

FOR BOILING: Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.

FOR CHLORINATING: Alternatively, customers may also disinfect their water with bleach using the following measurements:

CONTAINER SIZE	AMOUNT OF BLEACH	
	CLEAR WATER	CLOUDY WATER
1 GALLON	3 DROPS	6 DROPS
5 GALLON	15 DROPS	30 DROPS
55 GALLON	1-½ TEASPOONS	1 TABLESPOON
100 GALLON	3 TEASPOONS	2 TABLESPOONS
500 GALLON	5 TABLESPOONS	½ CUP
1,000 GALLON	½ CUP	1 CUP

NOTE: Allow the water to stand in a covered container, away from the sunlight, if possible, for at least 30 minutes.

For more information, visit the CUC website, www.cucgov.org, or contact CUC's Customer Call Center at 664-4CUC (664-4282). ***(CUC)***

Best Sunshine commits $500,00 to Saipan relief efforts

Shock, hopelessness and despair were common emotions felt as dawn approached and people first got a glimpse of the damage they faced. Typhoon Soudelar left a trail of devastation on the island of Saipan, damaging hundreds of homes and leaving many families homeless. As the community struggled in the aftermath, the biggest investor in the CNMI, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., took immediate action to help members of their community without hesitation.

The CNMI government took the lead in organizing relief efforts locally and then nationally. Best Sunshine wanted to ensure their assistance to the community went to those most in need, so they reached out and met with key government officials to determine how they can help. The following are Best Sunshine's post Typhoon Soudelar Day ("TSD") relief efforts:

■ TSD+1: Best Sunshine officials requested and met with the Inos administration to offer assistance.

■ TSD+2: Best Sunshine delivered four multi-passenger vans to the shelters located at the Man'Amko Center and the Kagman Community Center; efforts also began to search for manpower to provide temporary assistance for post-typhoon recovery.

■ TSD+3: Delivered 250 gallons of drinking water to the shelters; implemented a company-wide "Water for Saipan" conservation program and donated 600 bottles of drinking water saved from the program to the shelters.

■ TSD+4: Best Sunshine met with Saipan Mayor David Apatang to offer assistance and committed to provide funding for 30 temporary employees to assist with post-typhoon recovery; Best Sunshine also donated 800 bottles of drinking water for this project was more than $165,000.

Since the day after the typhoon, Best Sunshine has been meeting with officials from various government agencies and NGOs to discuss what else, if anything, can be done for the community. Best Sunshine greatly appreciates the leadership and dedication of government officials and NGOs as well as the hundreds of devoted volunteers that have helped our community since the aftermath of the storm.

■ TSD+5: Best Sunshine gathered and briefed the 30 temporary employees for the Saipan Mayor's Office; Saipan Mayor's Office requested and Best Sunshine agreed to purchase 30 safety vests and chainsaws to be used by the temporary employees. Best Sunshine's total contribution to the Saipan Mayor's Office and the shelters, Best Sunshine also committed an additional in-kind donation valued at $300,000 that will be distributed throughout Saipan in consultation with government officials and NGOs. This will bring Best Sunshine's post-typhoon relief contributions to a total of $500,000. ***(Best Sunshine)***

Best Sunshine's donations will be used to provide much needed assistance to all members of our community. As of Thursday, Aug. 13, on top of the $200,000 already com-

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Conditions at Saipan animal shelter improve, says Hudy

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Cares for Animals volunteer Jason Hudy said that conditions at the Saipan animal shelter in Lower Base are improving, with many dogs having been adopted.

"Our dog shelter was pretty much destroyed and for a week or so things looked pretty bleak, with dogs living in small transport cages, with no help in sight," Hudy said.

"I'm happy to report that things have improved significantly. Although our shelter is still destroyed, with no water, no power, and half a roof, the conditions for the dogs are getting better," he added.

With throngs of volunteers going and helping at the shelter, Mayor David M. Apatang is pleased with what's happening. Staff of the Dog Control Program have been stationed at the site, with volunteers attending to the dogs.

Hudy said that Humane Society International is back on island and is helping out at the shelter.

"Every day the shelter is looking a little better, and I really do think that in a few months, it's going to be better than it ever was," he said.

The group has also started a GoFundMe page (http://www.gofundme.com/3u3u8gubes) to raise the money needed to rebuild the Saipan animal shelter.

"We have raised nearly $5,000 in our GoFundMe account, and I'm using that money sparingly to buy much needed supplies that were destroyed in the typhoon. And we still have a bunch to make some hopefully drastic improvements to the shelter, such as expanded play areas," he said.

Hudy noted that the shelter has received so many donations in the past couple of days such as food, treats, and supplies.

"Most importantly, the lives of the dogs are improving. All dogs are now out of their transport cages and thanks to the donations that came in, I put together a 'Free Adoption Period' where I can pay the fees to adopt the dogs," Hudy said.

In the last four days, the shelter has seen 18 adoptions. It went from 57 dogs in the shelter—which can only hold 40—about seven weeks ago to only 29 dogs now.

"We've been able to adopt a great deal of dogs to loving homes so far without a single euthanasia," he said.

Hudy also thanked the volunteers and contributions that have come into the shelter and hopes for a quick recovery.

Dogs at the animal shelter are in still need of homes and anyone interested to adopt a dog can visit the shelter in Lower Base.

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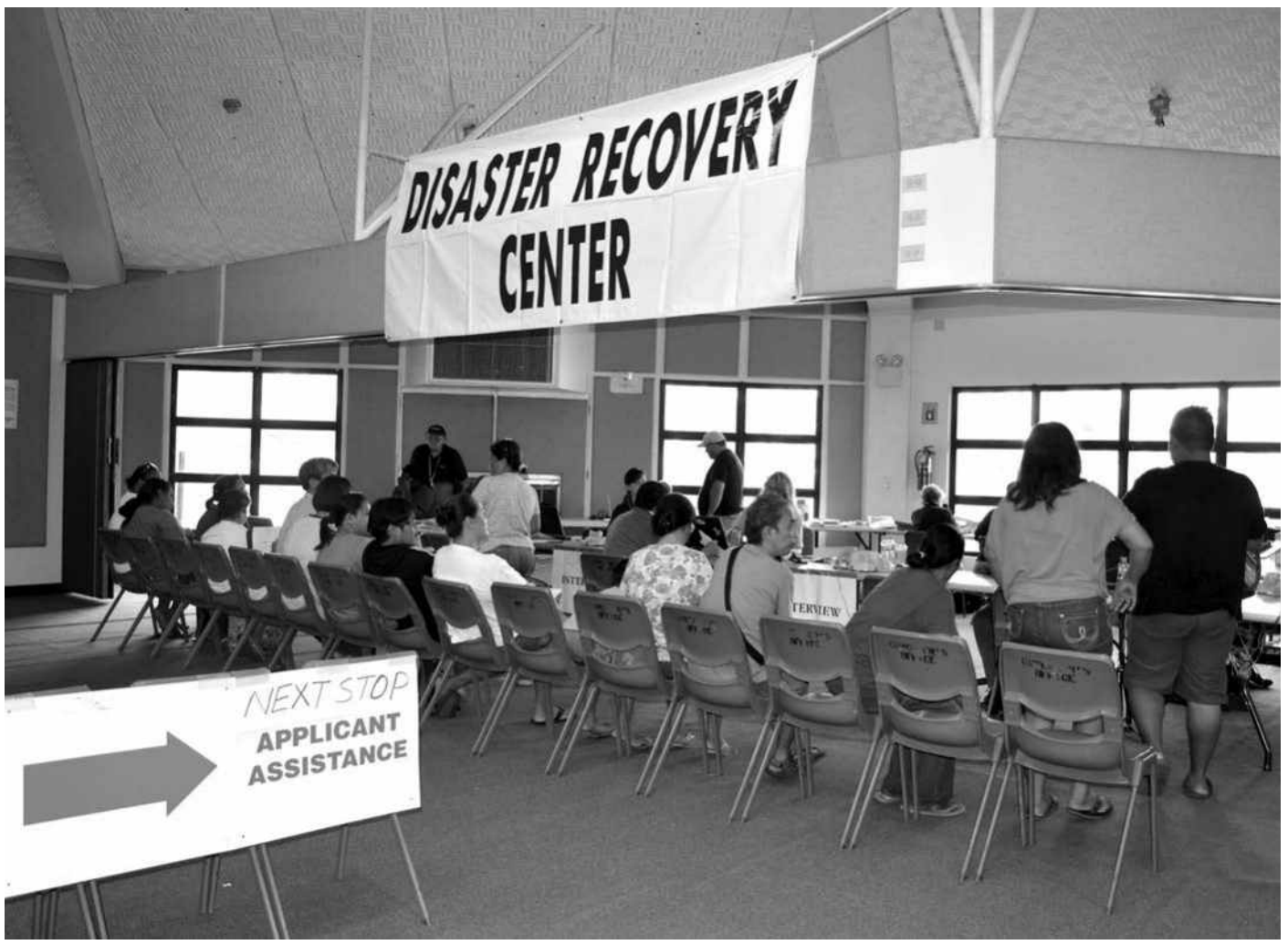
Judith Castro
Teacher, Dan Dan Middle School
As Matuis, Saipan

Filipinos urged to avail of relief assistance



Residents sit inside the Disaster Recovery Center at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Thursday waiting for FEMA to process registrations for financial assistance in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor. JOEL PINAROC

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Filipinos on Saipan affected by Typhoon Soudelor are urged to seek for relief that is being made available to the community.

"To our *kababayans*, try to avail of the relief being provided by FEMA and other agencies," Honorary Consul to the Philippines Glicerio "Eli" Arago said.

"I encourage them to apply for whatever relief is available from the agencies that are providing assistance," he added.

Arago said that everyone is welcome to apply and that "there's nothing wrong for them to try."

"FEMA will screen everything and then they will ask information. Even if they get denied, if you have communication with them they might reconsider," Arago said.

Arago said his office is open to help those who need assistance in their applications, particularly in explaining how the process goes. He also encouraged Filipino organizations to do the same.

"Those who have access to the Internet can help those who don't have access," he said.

Consular outreach postponed

Arago added that the mobile outreach of the Guam Consulate General that was supposed to start yesterday on Saipan may probably push through next month. The Tinian leg of the outreach was also deferred.

"We don't know the exact date," Arago said.

According to him, it depends on the recovery of the island. He said it's hard to hold the outreach now as there is limited space and no power supply and some Filipinos also got displaced.

Rice and water donations

Last Sunday, Arago, together with the United Filipino Organizations, gave out rice and water to Filipino families who are in need.

» UFO gives rice, water to those in need

Arago said he as well as UFO and Bayani Association donated $500 each while the Philippine Consulate in Guam gave $2,000 for the relief effort.

UFO president Bong Malasarte said they were able to give 466 1-lb bags of rice to Filipino households on the island.

With the help of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), they were also able to give out one-gallon water to each household.

"We went around Saipan and sought those who really need help," Malasarte said.

He said that even though their organization is not really for giving relief, they tried their best to help out, not just to Filipinos but also other families that needed help.

FEMA

From Page 1

assist more people to register," DeBlasio said.

He said there will be no need for registration for businesses wanting to avail of low interest loans from the Small Business Administration. The SBA is also housed at the DRC and is on standby to assist those wanting to apply for loans.

Day 2

DeBlasio said the DRC will continue to be open until it is no longer needed.

It was a busy, but an uneventful second day for the disaster recovery center at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Thursday, as the DRC continues to accommodate those still wanting to seek assistance.

Inside the facility are numerous telephone lines and several computer terminals that FEMA is letting visitors use to register on site.

On Thursday afternoon, visitors arrived in trickles and only about 70 people were inside, while a handful remained outside.

But the total number of visitors for the whole day is significant, according to Virginia Marquez, the DRC manager. She earlier said she is expecting the number of visitors to rise steadily, since the DRC opened on Wednesday.

The opening day of the DRC drew a few hundred residents, most of whom were seeking to register for federal assistance. It opened its doors Wednesday to accommodate typhoon survivors wanting to get supplemental information on financial assistance and small business loans.

Although FEMA emphasized that the DRC was not designed to accommodate registrations for FEMA assistance, many residents showed up anyway to register.

A handful of visitors who registered prior to the opening of the DRC were told to wait for inspectors to give them a call, Marquez said.

Survivors are encouraged to apply for assistance before going to the DRC by calling 800-621-3362 or (TTY) 800-462-7585. Those who use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services can call 800-621-3362 to register. Online registration is also available at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.

If survivors are unable to register prior to visiting the DRC, there will be a phone bank available for registration or helpline support.

SOUDELOR

From Page 1

super typhoon because there are damage that "they have to see" that they weren't able to see on island.

Among these are "structural damage," and despite Saipan being badly hit, most of the damage were "architectural damage." They also pointed out that the storm surge was "negligible."

Terrain interaction

While some residents comment that what they experienced was similar to a tornado, the meteorologists say there were none of that with Soudelor.

"All the stripes and patches of damage just come with the terrain," Lander said.

"It's not part of the typhoon doing that. It's the wind interacting with the island," he added.

"The terrain can do a lot of different things to the winds. Anytime you have a slope terrain, the winds accelerate up and they accelerate down," Guard said.

Unique, small typhoon

Guard describes Soudelor as a "unique" typhoon.

"It's an incredibly small storm, very intense. It's a storm we really have not seen go over populated areas," Guard said.

He pointed out that most typhoons are 20 miles high and 200 miles wide but Soudelor was as wide as it was high—even less than 20 miles in height and width.

"Our first shock was flying over the northern part of Tinian and not seeing a single piece of damage. The trees were just perfect. That shows you how incredibly small this storm was," Guard said.

"We've seen these kinds of storms before and we kind of wondered what's inside them because they got an eye so small the satellite has trouble resolving the eye. We call it the pinhole eye," he added.

Guard said they really "don't know what's inside" and "how these things behave."

Wrong forecast

Asked about being wrong with their forecast, Guard said they were indeed "wrong."

"We did forecast it wrong. It's called a forecast. We don't know the answer but we give you the best information that we have at the time," Guard said.

"All the weather agencies have the same answer and it just happened to be the wrong answer with regards to how fast it was intensifying," he added.

However, Guard pointed out that they did expect it to intensify, that's why they raised typhoon conditions in some parts of the CNMI even when Soudelor was just a tropical storm. He also said that they actually upgraded Soudelor to a typhoon before the Warning Center did.

"The rate that it was intensifying was much faster than what we expected it to intensify. So really, when the winds, when we realized how strong the winds were getting, it was really too late for you all to do anything except hunker down and wait until the worst of it passes,"

Guard said they don't know how much information people in the CNMI were getting.

"We're in Guam, we don't really know how much information the people are getting," he said.

With their assessment, the NWS will be having a report and will work with other people such as theoreticians in studying the typhoon.

"We're going to have to work with some of our colleagues back in MIT and some of the universities to look at what can happen at a system, in a storm that has these characteristics. We've never seen one," Guard said.

HOSPITAL

From Page 1

new poles, all the linemen, GPA management, Gary Camacho [CUC'S power division manager] who is leading the efforts there…"

"I also want to make recognition for all the guys in [Federal Emergency Management Agency] who have provided tremendous assistance. And the whole crew at [Emergency Operations Center] who've given continuous support throughout…"

"It was sequential how we got here. The first thing we did was assess the situation. We found out what was required to have to put things in order…and at the same time [we were] putting up the power poles, the power gen[eration] folks were drying out the generator and running the tests. "

"…Little by little, putting the power back and increasing the output 'til it was at a point where we were online and had the wires connected. [Then we] worked with hospital staff to make the switch from their generators to the line power," Riegel said.

State of the grid

Returning power to the hospital was one step forward on a long road to full recovery for the utility.

All 14,662 electric customers on Saipan remain without power as of yesterday.

In their "Typhoon Soudelor Situational Report," the U.S. Department of Energy said Power Plant 4 became operational on Wednesday.

Typhoon Soudelor damaged the plant's distribution lines, roof, and generators.

On Wednesday, CUC started Generator Unit 2, operating under no-load.

DOE said on Wednesday that the damage assessment for the entire island has yet to be completed, with no timeline provided for completion, with CUC's damaged pole count expected to increase as damage assessment continues.

CUC's preliminary statistics of transformer damage and wooden power poles that are damaged and leaning follow:

- 40 damaged single-phase transformer assemblies, ranging in size from 10 kVA to 167 kVA.
- 17 damaged three phase transformer assemblies, ranging in size from 10 kVA to 167 kVA
- 295, 35-foot wood poles and 45-foot poles are either damaged or leaning. DOE notes this number is expected to increase.

OAG, OPD, MLS open temporary offices at Judiciary

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI Judiciary has opened up its facilities in Susupe to house temporary offices for the Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division, the Office of the Public Defender, and the Micronesian Legal Services because of Typhoon Soudelor's power disruption.

As this developed, Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and associate justices John A. Manglona and Perry B. Inos and some Judiciary staff conducted yesterday another damage assessment at their facilities in Susupe in order to finalize their report.

Manglona, in an interview yesterday with *Saipan Tribune*, disclosed that the OAG requested the Judiciary last week if they could use their facilities to open a temporary office for the Criminal Division.

"So we have our computer training room for them. They have their own computers and printers here," Manglona said, adding that OAG is not only using the room but also the Judiciary's Internet capability.

Manglona said the same thing goes for the Office of the Public Defender, which they authorized to use two witness rooms as their temporary office.

He said the Micronesian Legal Services also temporarily moved their office to the Judiciary on Tuesday.

As for damage assessment, Manglona said there are major flooding in some areas of the building, but that they are fortunate to have their staff clean up everything.

"We are now looking at the entire facility on what else needs to be done. It's good thing we had a repair early this year and that mitigated our damage," he said.

Manglona said they had their preliminary damage assessment last week, and with yesterday's assessment they are just finalizing their report.

He said their report will be submitted to the Executive Branch or at the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

On the power issue, Manglona said they are operating the Judiciary's generator four hours a day.

"We recognize that it's better to operate every day, even though in certain hours only," he said.

He said they will continue with the schedule next week, but they will issue a public notice regarding the schedule of the Judiciary's operation next week.

"Right now we're on a week-to-week basis," Manglona said.

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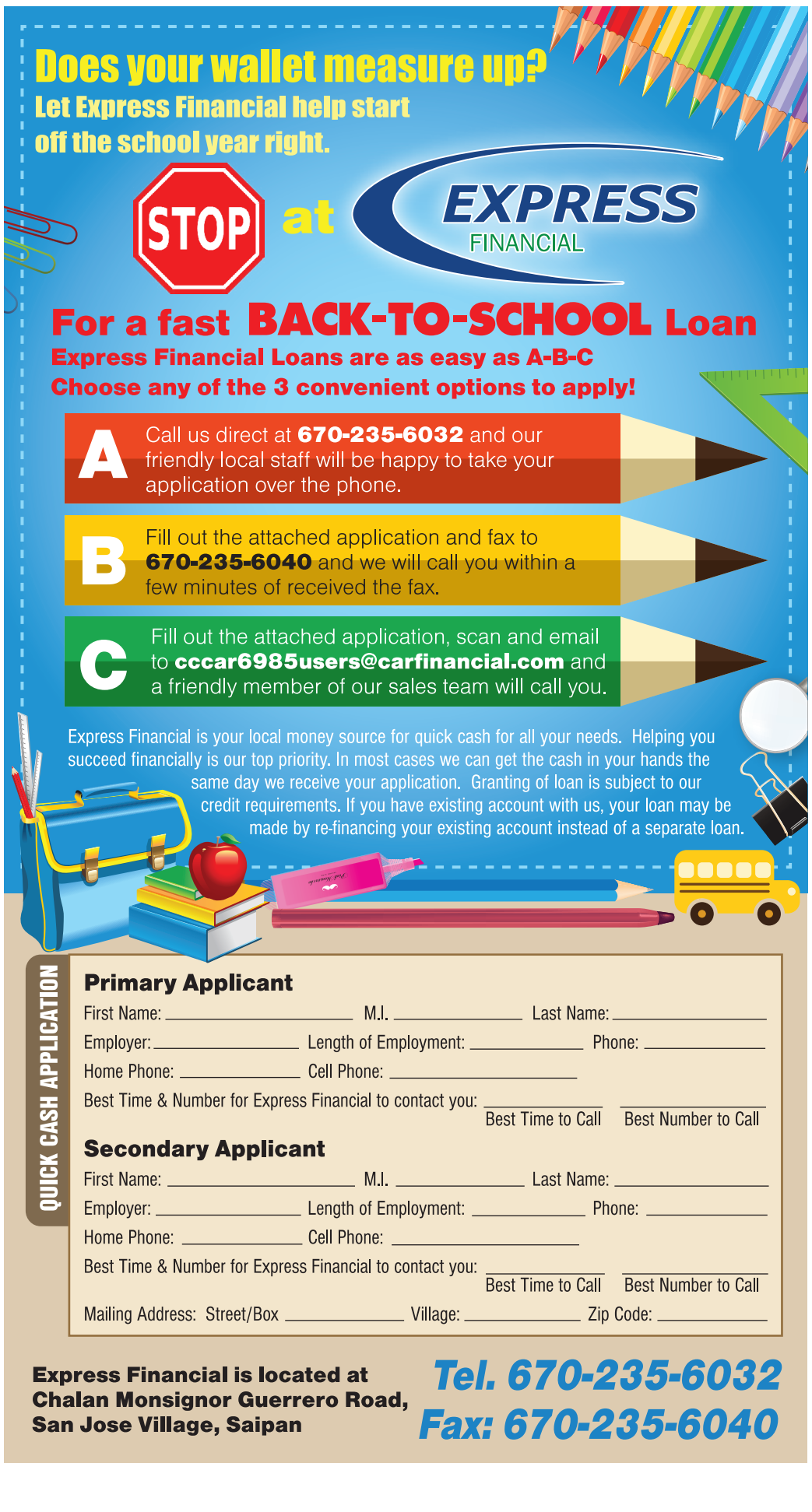
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IT&E routes Red Cross number to call center

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

IT&E routed the American Red Cross NMI Chapter's phones to its call center in Susupe yesterday afternoon, providing 24/7 assistance to the chapter's casework efforts following the destructive Typhoon Soudelor.

There have been several thousands calls into the chapter since Typhoon Soudelor tore across the island over a week ago, destroying or damaging homes and leaving families in need of assistance.

The local chapter, though, has only had a few operators working the phone line. Red Cross has already taken in some 4,000 calls.

The chapter also closes at 6pm. With calls going to the call center, residents can provide their information 24/7 to IT&E operators who input them into a shared database with caseworkers.

The chapter's three phones—at 234-3459—clicked over to the call center at around 4pm yesterday, according to Rob Harrell, IT&E Customer Operations executive director. Operators were learning "script" over the last couple of days.

"We are here to support them as long as they need us," Harrell said.

"I know the Red Cross has probably taken some 4,000 [calls]. And I think the important thing is, once [residents] call in, they don't need to call in again. I know there is a lot of duplication right now, so we are trying to clean up the contact list."

"This will be able to help the Red Cross people focus more on the individual—because they haven't been able to make outbound calls because they are getting so many calls in," Harrell said.

Mary Anderson, American Red Cross site delivery manager, yesterday said, "… Our girls that are making the phone calls here with the three phones we got [are] going to stop doing it and the call center's going to take over."

"You are not going to get a busy signal," Red Cross executive director John Hirsch said on Wednesday. "You are going always to get an operator. They are going to get your information. We are sharing our database with them so they can have access exactly" as Red Cross does.

Harrell highlighted residents calling in with prepaid numbers would not be charged load.

Harrell also said they would help ease the long lines at Red Cross by making sure that when they do outbound calls, that only one head of the household shows up for appointment.

The outbound calls will tell residents what day and time to go to the Chapter after caseworkers process their information and damage.

"As soon as we put it in, the caseworker can go into those files also," Harrell said.

He said they aim to help make the process more efficient by "cleaning up" the system and matching the name of applicant with their appointment number faster, for example.

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'Stealing wires from downed poles only prolong recovery'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero urged the public yesterday to immediately report any incidents of thieves stealing copper wires from downed Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power poles.

"Stealing copper wires from downed power poles will do nothing more than prolong the CNMI's recovery efforts," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

The commissioner said these wires are specialized in nature and may be difficult to procure locally, which mean a longer waiting period for the entire community to receive power from CUC if supplies are limited.

"I urge anyone with information as to who's responsible for these type of thefts to report it to the police immediately," he said.

Lastly, Deleon Guerrero said, if there are recycling vendors out there who are supporting this type of behavior and people are aware of it, people should report them as well.

Saipan Tribune learned that a few days after Typhoon Soudelor pummeled Saipan, three men were seen cutting copper wires from downed CUC poles near Hardt Eye Clinic in Garapan.

When a concerned citizen confronted them about stealing copper wires, one of the three replied that they're selling them to buy food because they're hungry.

San Diego club sets up fundraiser for Saipan typhoon relief efforts

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The list keeps getting longer, with more and more contributions from off-island and former CNMI residents throwing their support behind relief efforts for Saipan in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor's islandwide destruction.

The CNMI San Diego Club, which is leading a relief drive, has been receiving donations from many former Saipan residents.

David Atalig, president for the CNMI San Diego Club, said they've set up a GoFundMe page, www.GoFundMe.com/savetheCNMI, and all donations will be sent directly to the Karidat Social Services organization.

So far the account has garnered more than $8,700 in donations while also receiving mass support in the form of donated clothing, food, and many items.

"Our friends and families on the islands of Saipan and Tinian have suffered the most damage and we seek your prayers and especially your monetary donations in helping the CNMI in their recovery," Atalig stated.

He said their club was prompted to set up the campaign after many approached them to ask how they can donate and assist their families in the CNMI.

The CNMI San Diego Club, along with Roil Soil Clothing, will ensure all monetary and in-kind donations will go directly to the people of the CNMI through Karidat to purchase items like blankets, water, food, and clothing for typhoon victims, whether in shelters or in their own homes.

The CNMI San Diego Club is also partnering with the Sons and Daughters of Guam Club in San Diego to coordinate donated items that will be sent to the island. All items will be brought to SDGC at 334 Willie James Jones Avenue in San Diego where they will be stored until a container is filled and shipped.

200 power poles from Guam soon

The Guam Power Authority is shipping power poles to Saipan to assist in local power restoration efforts.

Right now, CUC is without any spare power poles after all power poles in stock were wiped in recent restoration efforts.

Acting CUC executive director John Riegel confirmed yesterday that GPA is shipping over poles. According to him, 200 poles are expected.

"Ninety [poles] will be here by Saturday," he said. "The ones coming here this weekend are concrete [power poles].

The U.S. Department of Energy also reports that wooden poles from GPA stockpiles in Guam are in the process of receiving airlift transport to Saipan.

Typhoon Soudelor brought down 48 percent of Saipan's power grid.

GPA delivered—via the USS *Ashland*—poles, insulators, wires, splices, and insulators, bolts, among others, in the thousands on Tuesday.

They also sent several bucket and Ford trucks. ***(Dennis Chan)***

Inos: Collaboration is key to prevent relief snafus

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S Inos summoned members of the Legislature and representatives of federal and local agencies yesterday to share updates on the ongoing recovery efforts for Saipan.

"Under the circumstances, I am glad we can still convene and share some updates on our recovery efforts so that we are all on the same page," said Inos during the meeting on Capital Hill.

He added that "we need to be resilient" and in anything that needs to be done, "we should collaborate" to make the work easier.

One of Inos' recommendations is to ask the agencies and CNMI departments to coordinate, particularly on information dissemination.

Inos was apparently referring to incidents on Wednesday and other previous incidents involving distribution centers and relief operations.

Inos

One particular incident involved some 2,000 residents trooping to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter, prompting ports police to close the Airport Road when the traffic spilled into the road.

Some of crowd reportedly fought with each other, and grew angry under the hot sun as they waited for relief goods. The event was described as "chaotic" and "overwhelming."

Another was the first day of relief operations over the weekend that saw thousands of resident queuing up for hours before receiving aid.

"There is frustration among the public, which can create chaotic incidents," Inos said.

The governor also addressed local media to "work with the government" when it comes to information sharing.

Inos also lauded the efforts of Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, who was "able to stand up in two major catastrophes" that the CNMI faced.

Concerns

Torres reiterated that it is a challenge for the CNMI government to address the sudden rush of people to designated areas due to "misinformation."

"Some of the communities tend to get the wrong information," he said.

Another major challenge for the CNMI is the lack of hotel rooms for the members of numerous agencies currently on Saipan doing their respective work.

Homeland Emergency Management special assistant Marvin K. Seman described this and other concerns as "logistics nightmare."

For water and power, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. continues to rely on generators and is not yet producing its own power.

CUC Power Division manager Gary Camacho, who gave a brief update on repairs of power poles and power lines, said that Yap and FSM have jumped in and offered qualified linemen to complement local manpower.

For the American Red Cross, information dissemination is also an issue.

In a statement, the ARC said it needs the help of the CNMI government and members of the Legislature to encourage communities to fill up and sign a one-page declaration of ownership and occupancy.

The ARC, which relies on volunteers, has asked lawmakers to help disseminate the document by tapping community workers.

Red Cross assistance will be by appointment soon

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Lines at the American Red Cross NMI chapter office were not as bad yesterday as they were in prior days. This is because the 250 individuals to be processed yesterday were given numbers ahead of time. This was also what they did for today.

However, succeeding days will no longer be like that but by appointment only, according to ARC service delivery site manager Mary Anderson.

"Starting Saturday, everything's going to be by appointment. We're not handing out numbers anymore," Anderson said, "We don't want these lines anymore."

According to Anderson, they will be opening up a call center that will be able to handle all calls coming into and out from the Red Cross.

Through that they will be setting up appointments per individual to come to their chapter office in Airport Road.

"We're asking people that haven't registered to call in, give us their name, their phone number, and their address. When they give us their phone numbers, we're going to return their call and say 'here's when you have an appointment, can you make it at this time, on this day?'" Anderson said.

"If you call and have given us your name and number, hang tight for a little longer, we're going to call you back," she added.

Anderson said they will also remind people what to bring like identification cards so that they come prepared.

Patience

ARC is looking at 350 appointments a day but they will also try to increase that number depending on how the process goes.

"We'll see if we can ramp it up to a few more and get as many people in here every day as we can until we've seen the very last person," Anderson said.

Right now ARC has about 16 caseworkers working on their site to talk to people one on one. They also have teams out in the community to see clients who really can't get to the chapter office themselves.

Asked about people who registered as early as last week and are still waiting for a call from the organization, Anderson said they are doing their best to prioritize them.

"We're merging them all into one database and we're trying to do them as by when we got them," Anderson said. "We're doing our best to make sure that the first called are the first served."

Anderson also asked members of the public seeking assistance to be patient.

"Just be a little more patient with us and we're going to do everything in our power to get to them," she said.

Not leaving

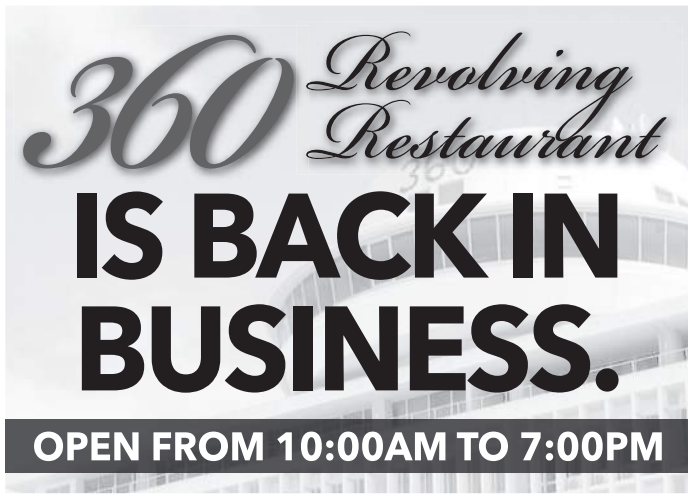
ARC also assured the public that everyone who needs assistance will get assistance.

"I can guarantee, we are not leaving until we've seen everybody that has need," Anderson said. "As long as we need to be here, we will be here."

Once an individual or head of household is done with casework, Red Cross will be giving them client assistance cards with some money for fuel, phone, and laundry as well as tarps, water, buckets, hygiene supplies, food, and other supplies.

Anderson said that financial assistance is based on the needs of the affected person.

To register with ARC, call



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Legislature OKs amendment to disaster 'price freeze' law

CNMI legislators approved an amendment to an existing disaster "price freeze" law that now allows the governor to extend the number of days that a price freeze can be put in place.

In a session on Tinian on Tuesday, members of the Senate approved Senate Bill 19-59, amending the CNMI's Disaster *Price Freeze Act of 1996. The measure was approved by the House of Representatives in an emergency session on Capital Hill yesterday.*

S.B, 19-59 will now be transmitted to Gov. Eloy S. Inos for enactment.

On Wednesday, Inos requested the Legislature to hold emergency sessions to pass the amendment.

"In order to more effectively protect our residents from predatory pricing activities by merchants following Typhoon Soudelor, I respectfully request that you call an emergency joint session of the Commonwealth Legislature to amend the Disaster Price Freeze Act. At present the Disaster Price Freeze Act allows the governor to issue a price freeze for five days, and further allows one five-day extension," Inos, in his letter, said.

According to Inos, a price freeze order was issued on Aug. 3 and was extended through Aug. 13.

"Price gouging has already been reported throughout the community. Without an amendment to the Act, I will be unable to extend this necessary protection for our community through the duration of our recovery efforts," he said.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said the CNMI law on anti-price gouging mandates prices of commodities to be "frozen" for four or five days after a declaration of emergency.

"But the AG is recommending that this be extended for the duration of the disaster declaration," Deleon Guerrero said.

He said he will meet with Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on other emergency bills the CNMI government might need.

Deleon Guerrero hinted of a sense of urgency at the Legislature, because aside from the emergency bills, the government's budget bill also needs to be passed.

"The CNMI Constitution says we need to pass that bill by Sept. 30. We do not have too much time on the budget," he said.

Sept. 30, 2015, is the end of fiscal year 2015 for the CNMI government. The budget remains pending at the Senate. ***(Joel Pinaroc)***

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Non-US citizens may be eligible for FEMA aid

Typhoon Soudelor survivors, including those who are not U.S. citizens, may be eligible through the Federal Emergency Management Agency for assistance. If you are unsure of your eligibility, FEMA will walk you through the process when you call and register.

The aid may be available to citizens, non-citizen nationals, and qualified aliens. Qualified aliens include those with legal permanent residence (shown by green cards). Their status will not be jeopardized by requesting disaster assistance.

A parent or guardian who isn't eligible may still register for assistance on behalf of a child under age 18 who is a citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien. No information will be gathered on the adult's status.

Anyone who is not eligible for monetary assistance from FEMA may still be eligible for some programs run by voluntary organizations and state and local governments.

Survivors are encouraged to apply for assistance by calling 800-621-3362 or (TTY) 800-462-7585. Those who use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services can call 800-621-3362 to register. Online registration is also available at www.DisasterAssistance.gov. Business owners can also contact the SBA Customer Service Center 1-800-659-2955 (SBA). ***(FEMA)***

LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort offers free chainsaw, blower services

»Resort also giving out non-potable water to residents

This Saturday and Sunday, August 15 and 16, LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort staff will be going around the Kagman Community offering chainsaw and blower services free of charge.

Resort staff will be in the LaoLao Bay van. If you see the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort van in your area, and need assistance, feel free to flag them down.

If you would like to request for services, call LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort at 236-8888.

Also, LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, in conjunction with DEQ, is still providing non-potable water to residents. The distribution site is by the start of the walkway path coming from Kagman Market.

"LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort is committed to helping our community, and we will continue to find ways to provide assistance during this difficult time," the company said in a statement yesterday. ***(PR)***

Partners unite to enhance Samoa's cultural and creative industries

APIA, Samoa—The cultural and creative industries in Samoa represent an important economic sector as well as the country's deep heritage and culture.

The Samoa Bureau of Statistics confirmed that in 2011, almost 30 percent of the country's population earned some income from handicraft production, just one of the many cultural sectors.

Despite the number of cultural and creative producers in Samoa, there have been few training programs targeting this unique sector with an in-depth, industry-specific curriculum aimed at boosting the livelihoods of producers and supporting economic growth.

To support the development of the cultural and creative industries, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the European Union, Samoa's Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture, and the Samoa Arts Council have created a partnership with the Samoan Small Business Enterprise Center to create a targeted training program to boost the nation's cultural industries.

The first training program was held in Apia from Aug. 3 to 7, with the second session on Aug. 11 to 14. Both trainings were held at the Hotel Elisa in Apia.

The training was made possible by the European Union-ACP supported "Enhancing the Pacific Cultural Industries: Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands" project, implemented by SPC's Social Development Division in collaboration with PIFS, Samoa's Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture and the Samoa Arts Council.

This training focused specifically on handcraft, fashion and visual art producers, the Deputy Director of SPC's Social Development Division, Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago-Elisara, said.

"Through formal presentations and interactive sessions, the training will provide cultural and creative producers with knowledge and skills to enhance their businesses and livelihoods.

"The participants will learn about entrepreneurial and business topics specific to the cultural industries such as quality control, supplier and buyer relationships, distribution channels, marketing strategies and materials, product development and design, and costing and pricing," Toelupe Tago-Elisara said.

She said that, as part of the partnership, SBEC will integrate the training program into their existing course offerings and repeat it in the future based on demand, ensuring that the knowledge stays local and producers have a resource for advice and technical support.

The success of this partnership is based on the commitment of the partners and the groundwork laid during the National Development Workshop for the Cultural and Creative Industries in Samoa, hosted by SPC, PIFS, MESC and the Samoa Arts Council in November 2014.

Samoa is also home to MENA, one of the region's most successful high-end, fashion companies with steady sales into the Australian, New Zealand, United States, and Pacific markets. Despite such successes, comprehensive economic statistics on the cultural and creative industries are still hard to come by in the Pacific, despite growing interest from data users.

The UN Conference on Trade and Development reported that the global market for cultural and creative industries topped $624 billion in 2011. ***(SPC)***

SPC supports NMI with post-typhoon Soudelor public health surveillance

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Following a request from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. for additional expertise in the wake of typhoon Soudelor, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community has sent a senior epidemiologist to Saipan to assist with public health surveillance.

SPC epidemiologist Dr. Paul White has arrived on Saipan from SPC headquarters in Noumea and will work closely with the Commonwealth health authorities and partners from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention over the next two weeks.

"We're very pleased to provide epidemiology support to our colleagues in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to ensure public health security in the aftermath of the devastating typhoon Soudelor," SPC Director-General Dr. Colin Tukuitonga said.

"In post-disaster situations, SPC is able to provide specialized support and services to Pacific Community members based on their specific needs," he said.

Rated by the Joint Typhoon Warning Centre as a Category 2 when it devastated parts of the Northern Mariana Islands, Typhoon Soudelor intensified early last week to a maximum Category 5 before reaching Taiwan and China.

Dr. White will assist with setting up post-disaster surveillance systems in designated areas, such as temporary shelters for displaced people.

He will also provide assistance with the collection, analysis, and dissemination of real-time health data and timely response to potential disease outbreaks.

SPC's Public Health Division provided similar practical support to the government of Vanuatu following tropical cyclone Pam earlier this year. Dr. White was part of the team deployed to Tanna Island, Vanuatu. ***(SPC)***

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EDITORIAL

Breaking a military glass ceiling

Army Ranger units are an especially closely-knit bunch. Every Ranger stands ready and able to protect their comrades and carry out extraordinarily difficult combat assignments under the most grueling conditions. Close doesn't count.

By the end of this month, two women could reshape the military's future as the first to complete Ranger School, which was open only to men until this year. The women, both West Point graduates, have met the same standards required of male applicants, including long hours of marches with heavy gear, sleeping in the field and other physical training. If they pass the final stages, they will have earned the right to be respected as full-fledged Rangers.

The Army Rangers is an exclusive club entered through hard work and personal achievement, and their success makes a strong statement about the ability of women to serve in the military's elite combat units. About 4,000 officers and enlisted soldiers start the humbling course each year, but only about 40 percent graduate. Those who don't make the cut aren't bad soldiers. To be a Ranger, however, is to be that extra special person who excels at tasks that humble all but the very best. If this is a glass ceiling, then these two women are poised to shatter it.

"First the naysayers said, 'They're not going be able to do this,' and then they did it, and then they said, 'They are not going be able do this part,' and they did it," says Col. David Fivecoat, commander of the Army's Airborne and Ranger training brigade.

Despite their accomplishments, it is not clear how these extraordinary women—as yet unidentified by the Army—will be allowed to practice their skills after graduation. Although the Pentagon ended the formal ban on women in combat roles in 2013, the Army and other services have until January to determine how far to include them in combat situations. Never mind that women currently pilot fighter planes, serve on ships in combat areas and perform intelligence gathering and other tasks.

We say these women should ascend as high and as far as their skills will take them. Not only are they achieving the physical requirements, male classmates have given the women strong marks for teammate and leadership skills, and praised them as soldiers they would want to be with in combat. Moreover, passing Ranger training is an unofficial door-opener for obtaining many infantry commands and for leading combat troops.

Many soldiers already accept women in uniform. These women should not be denied an opportunity to serve in combat missions in a Ranger unit.

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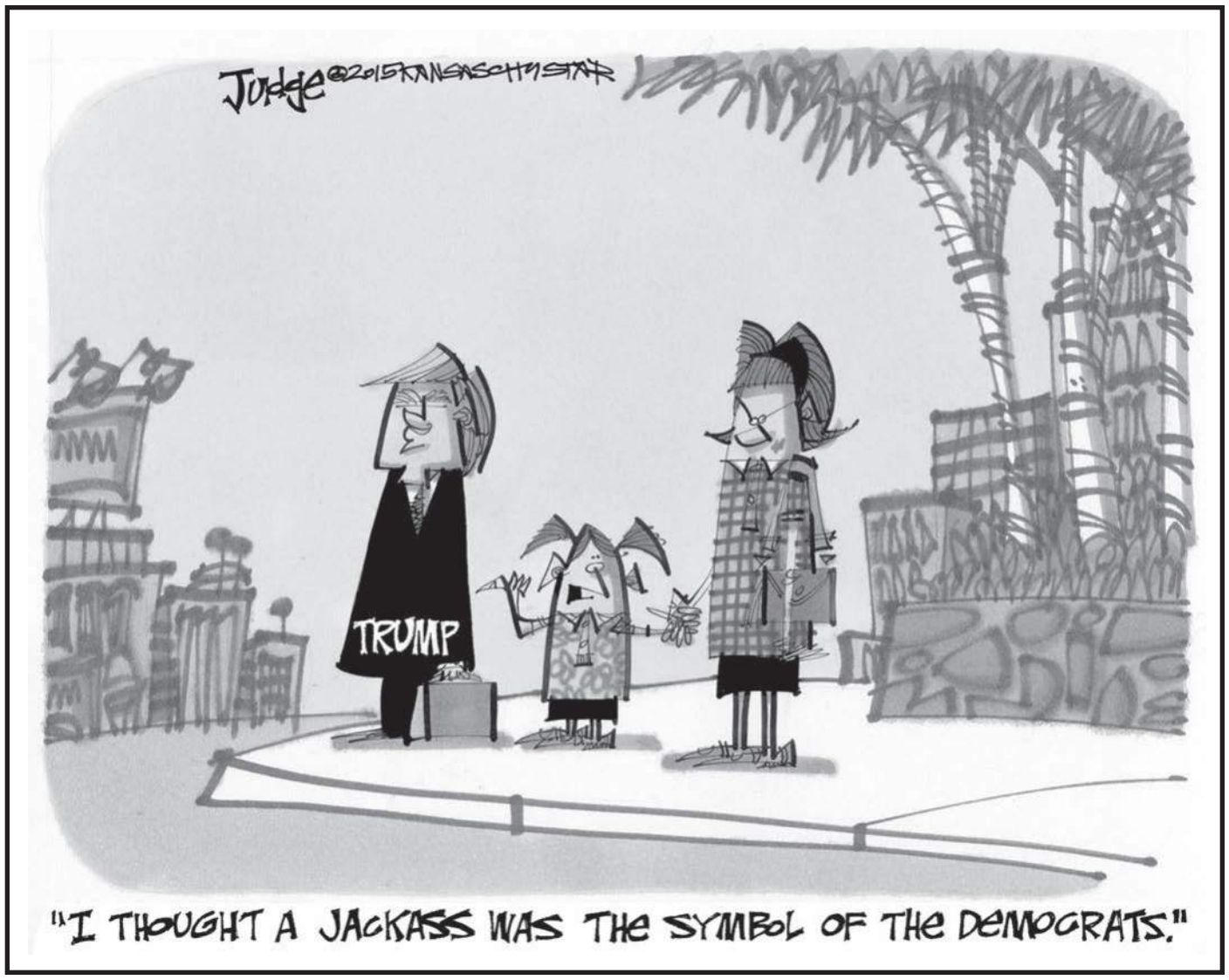


The smartphone generation

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

Now is undeniably the smartphone generation. Before Soudelor, folks walked the lagoon pathway on Saipan's famed sunset with a smartphone, either clicking in the scene or texting a message to someone. Former NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw made the phrase "the greatest generation" popular. That was his tribute to the 1920s-born group that fought WWII just because "it was right." Post-WWII generation was dubbed either as self-indulgent or lost.

Ernest Hemingway popularized the term "lost generation" much earlier. With names like T. S. Eliot, F. Scott Fitzgerald, John Dos Passos, Isadora Duncan, Franz Kafka, George Gershwin, and Aaron Copland, to name some, the generation included a productive stew. Their art diverged or was "lost" from the norm of Europe.

The "lost generation" fought WWI, and the "greatest generation" dug into Normandy's WWII while others marched into Iwo Jima; American casualties outnumbered the determined "fight 'til death" defending soldiers on the Volcano Islands, a geological extension of the Northern Marianas. Less than 300 of the 22,000 Nihon defenders survived, and Mt. Suribachi provided an iconic photo of U.S. grunts, now a monument in D.C. at Arlington cemetery.

Since the "Earthrise" of the '60s, I looked at the denizens of a planet as contained in one terrain, of humans evolving only in the last 40,000 years in a landscape that has been around more than four billion earth revolutions around the sun, in a lunar count that is definitely almost 160 billion rotations, but as JFK intoned, "There are no immigrants on Planet Earth." Its *dejado* operating image has been in buying into the Malthusian notion that population will always outgrow production, and therefore "the poor will always be with us." Evolution decreed that there is not enough food to go around, and social Darwinism had the Indo-Aryans claiming racial superiority.

The designation of "greatest" or "lost" does not help much other than praise or condemn ancestors. It is now 2015. There is no quarrel over the "smartphone generation" of the ubiquitous handy gizmo, if the crowd at the IT&E on Pale Arnold Road is any gauge, preferably the iPhone that the youth in my Beijing train last month brandished openly to show they could afford one. The sleek accessory determining behavior invites scrutiny. The smartphone has become "lord" rather than "servant," outsmarting users.

A brother-in-law commented that the reality of smartphone is simple yet effective—it makes users "appear busy, preoccupied, engaging eyesight and developing hearing as well fingering strokes. To be able to concentrate for a few minutes focused on one specific object only—rather than minding other people business, or on what is immediately going on around the world"—is valued. It fascinates many to understand what other people see and hear filtered through this small device, with family and friends near and far.

Our thoughts wander into the naming of a "smartphone" generation *sans* ethnic or national boundaries. All around the world, the smartphone is a popular commodity for its convenient utility to connect people. GE flourished with the light bulb, GM and Ford on the mass manufactured motor vehicle. Apple is at the heap of its game with the iPhone.

Apple reaps profits from its ventures, with Google, Samsung, Microsoft, LG, Yahoo, Facebook, Weibu, Alibaba, et al, not too far behind. Jobs and Wozniak popularized the personal computer but reached a peak with the iPhone, now venturing into the iCloud to offer complex media service. Regardless, it will not budge on its right to smartphone! (In case you missed it, I just used the word as a verb!)

My eldest daughter took a day off while I visited her family last year in the outskirt of Chicago, and with her eldest, we spent a day together (2014) on the Windy City's water canal by the Loop on her smartphone. She just smartphoned it all over the place, using it in place of a credit card. I felt like a dinosaur.

I interviewed for a local high school to teach World Geography and World History more than a month ago. I commented how I needed to catch up with technology that HS students play, noticing the boxes of game players on the floor of the interview room.

We live in a time of computerized smartwatches and light-efficient SmartGlasses, and what were, heretofore, experimental uses of new technologies are now common gadgets used in classrooms.

But like any technological innovation, the human interface still predominates and we have yet to surrender the option to decide ahead of the automated androids. While not as pliant of mind as the primary, elementary and high school students who soak up the latest gadgets as fast as they appear, to innovate and create remains the challenge on my lap, and in the sunset of my years, I am up against a game test should I chance on getting back to PSS to teach. I'll learn.

I am lining up for my offspring's discard. I join the smartphone generation this year.

Travel

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

I'm cleaning out an old suitcase, which is being rotated into reserve duty as a new model takes its place. When it comes to travel, much is justifiably written about the fun and novelty of seeing new places. Meanwhile, by contrast, I know some people who wish they could put their road days behind them entirely, which brings to mind some of the less glamorous realities of the gig.

Jobs that involve travel can be a great escape from the office world. But what sounds good, or even fun, when you're in your 20s can look a lot different after the years go by. After all, it doesn't make much sense to swap the air-conditioned tomb for an early casket because the hazards of fatigue, lousy diet, and stress weren't managed effectively.

These elements, these road hazards, can accumulate one day at a time. I'm seeing an increasing number of people succumbing to these things. This is largely due to the fact that, as my peer group sprouts more gray hairs, it's starting to show its higher miles, just like an old car does.

I say "largely," and not exclusively, because there may be other factors in play. I remember when travel was usually pleasant. Now, depending on the circumstances, it can be pretty unpleasant.

Anyway, pleasant might not have anything to do with it: Because of the shifting sands in the job market, mid-career professionals can face the choice of either hitting the road or hitting the unemployment line.

On that note, I've recently encountered a number of people who never intended to travel for a living but who got pushed into it by circumstances. I met an engineer who now spends all of his time on the road demonstrating industrial equipment to businesses. I know several computer programmers who have become floating workers, dispatched hither and yon, appearing and disappearing like phantoms at various job sites scattered thousands of miles apart.

This can be an especially large displacement in lifestyle for someone who has kids at home.

One thing about traveling is that if you want to do it, it can work out well, but if you don't want to do it, it can be a drag.

Work is, of course, work, and being itinerant often means that you don't get to absorb any real feel for a place. You're hermetically sealed inside of a generic hotel room, often eating at homogenous chain restaurants, and so on. Sometimes this is the most agreeable way to go, but, on other occasions when you have some time and energy to spare, it can take some effort to break out of the bubble and really get a sense of the local scene.

Conventional wisdom is that modern technology has made the communications aspects of travel easier. That's certainly true, but I haven't really seen any evidence that people are happier for it; I suspect that many people have become addicted to virtual escapism.

Here's something I've noticed from my corporate days: Although management ranks usually regard travel as a chore, lower-ranking employees who never get to travel often regard a company-funded trip as a benefit. The opportunity to stay in a nice hotel, eat at business-class restaurants, and see a new city can be a memorable and welcome experience for the rank-and-file. There is much promise in that dynamic. However, some companies manage to screw this up by putting their staff in lousy hotels and by being stingy with travel allowances, thus converting a potentially nice trip into just another grim experience of working for the man.

I long ago accepted the fact that trying to tightly control my travel expenses is an exercise in futility. Sure, at home, where I know my surroundings, I can deftly navigate the quirks in the market. But on the road, I resign myself to the dynamic that comfort and cleanliness carry a premium. I used to try to approach this stuff with a sharp pencil, but I gave up, and I'm back to using a dull crayon.

Overall, as far as travel goes, I'm at the point that economists consider the optimum: indifference. I'm happy to go, and I'm happy to stay. I don't know where my next trip will take me, but I'm sure that this new suitcase will have its inaugural trip before too long. As for the old one, it will sit peacefully in the garage and re-live its memories, a fate that awaits me as well.

As economic depression worsens

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.*

It is said that the future is now and it comes one day at a time. With this in mind we ask in earnest when would things begin happening to pull us out of the economic depression or dystopia—where nothing works?

The lethargic public sector conduct of business reminds me of what the nationally famous and late economist Milton Friedman said of the performance of government: "If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in five years there'd be a shortage of sand." Here at home it's "*pera*"!

You reach down to the depth of your conscience to see if there's any hopeful message stashed somewhere you may have missed. You juggle stagnant family income dubbed by Einstein as "insanity"—toying with the same figures and hoping for different results. None!

We've heard of hopeful large development plans funding which is contingent upon the sale of shares at some stock exchange. And so funding for its construction instantly turns into speculation.

In other words, funding sources aren't coming from various banks that have guaranteed loans for the planned projects. Therefore it's sheer speculation! It's a developers' specialty! It's 'let's build in hopes of making a profit'!

It's analogous to our sitting contented at a bus station for a ride that nobody knows if it's coming at all. So we wait and wait. We learned later, and I'm afraid this is what's coming down the pike on recent planned projects, that the bus isn't coming. Is this something city hall is wary of and if so, how do we pin down if the planned projects are factually secured in terms of funding?

For instance, the trumpeted "integrated resort" somehow faded in its supposed morning star rise and glitz as to trigger my curiosity level, placing the dotted line one circle at a time. In the midst of it all, there's the lack of a plan—a seemingly new tool in NMI planning—turned cyclical reality. This as the quality of life deteriorates even further.

NMI's role: The planned projects bring into focus the role of the NMI government in their implementation. Uppermost is the presentation of the scale of the project. In other words, how large is it and is it really affordable and sustainable? Are we ready to pitch in our share by way of other requirements, e.g., land and federally provided funds for basic infrastructure? Would the venture focus on lease of private or public land? Is there rationality in either case?

We see Singapore integrated resort promoted here. Any depth of understanding how long it took Singapore to build its integrated resort? Have we an understanding how that decision was reached? Is it now NMI policy to build such a humongous facility here? Would its construction require more foreign workers like between 3,000 and 5,000 people? Could this be met given a mandate to replace non-citizen workers by 2019? How would this be funded beyond speculation at a stock exchange somewhere nearby?

In the midst of it all, is there a commitment to review the planned integrated resort? Is the fickle tourism industry the planned mainstay of the NMI? Shouldn't this issue predominate proactive gathering of all key players to trump their cards? Why the retardant attitude on a matter that would only spell disaster in the short term? Have you an answer? Any answer?

Regional tension: China's aggressive behavior in the Spratly and Senkaku Islands leave the impression that the U.S. would intervene and hopefully resolve the feuding countries.

That these islands are within the 200-mile EEZ makes it an issue to take up with appropriate council of the UN Law of the Sea. China sees it this way. The U.S. is indifferent for refusing to sign the UN Law of the Sea agreement. So it leaves the brewing feud for resolution at the diplomatic level.

As this develops, another pops up in terms of U.S. military limiting use of Marianas land for its live fire ranges. If I understand it correctly it is now limited to Guam. Does it mean the NMI is free from use of its land for Cadillac firing ranges? We shall see if the divert airport would still remain an issue for discussion and subsequent agreement.

Finally, I find it appalling that while "boots on the ground" is the method of war being fought in the Middle East—mostly desert land—why would the military want use of a tropical island in preparation for battle in desert countries? How about using California, Nevada, Texas, Arizona and New Mexico? Doesn't this make sense?

■ ■ ■

It's called "official information" that comes from the governor's office. It included blue tanks throughout the island where one could get water or which filling stations are opened. The latter had a car owner lining up in San Vicente but noticed it was closed. The station had run out of fuel. In either case, this so-called "official information" came six to seven days later. Disorienting yet it's still called "disaster preparedness."

Whatever happened to an Emergency Task Force comprised of interagency people? Was this group ever called together as the storm approached the island or did we park it and looked the other way? Appalling our ability to sleepwalk on issues that matter! I often quiz how would we handle a major earthquake? It's an issue that lurks in my mind and I know it's coming when we least expect it. Storms could be observed. There's no technology to monitor temblors. It would really be "The Day After Tomorrow!"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Corrections

I would like to apologize to you all and especially the Gaming Commissioners because in my last article about education not being delivered, I wrote that the Gaming Commissioners are responsible for the job trainings for the Tinian casinos. Thank you to the former commissioner who wrote to me and sent me a copy of the Tinian Gaming Act where the duties and responsibilities of the Gaming Commission are written, which shows that the commissioners are only responsible for investigation and enforcing the laws stated in the Gaming Act. Also, as stated in the Gaming Act, their salaries is $70,000 per annum, not $80,000. However, I still believe that whoever is appointed as gaming commissioners should be mandated to take courses on how to perform their duties and responsibilities professionally.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

LITERARY NOOK

Beautiful Disaster

By JOAN TAITANO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Our day began like any other
News of a storm hitting our island were deceived on deaf ears
Not knowing that a tragic event was waiting for us in just a few hours...

When rain started to fall, doom came like a thief in the night
As people end their day, Soudelor was just beginning his
Wind came from different directions bellowing through the night
As if violent tremors were shaking our entire island

The night seemed to last forever, as we watch the hours closely
The only thing we can do is hold on to one another
Praying that Soudelor's wrath will quickly come to pass...

Alas, the day breaks and so does our bleeding hearts
Our once beautiful island paradise ravaged and destroyed
Hundred-year-old trees lie broken like helpless twigs
As people's houses became shattering debris

Life changed in a twinkling of an eye; our sources of power obliterated
Desperation ensued and all were reduced to living in the darkness
Our eyes filled with tears from destruction that enveloped our home

As we try to adjust to our reality now, valuable lessons are still learned
Patience, compassion, integrity, perseverance, brotherhood
Our faith stretched wider, deeper, bigger than ever before

Collective suffering will only make our community's bond even tighter
And no powerful storm can ever shake our resilient island spirit
As long as we have each other, we will get through anything
What doesn't kill us will only make us stronger

Father, give us strength to live another day
Give us wisdom so we can understand this beautiful disaster
And make us appreciate what we have and never take anything for granted...

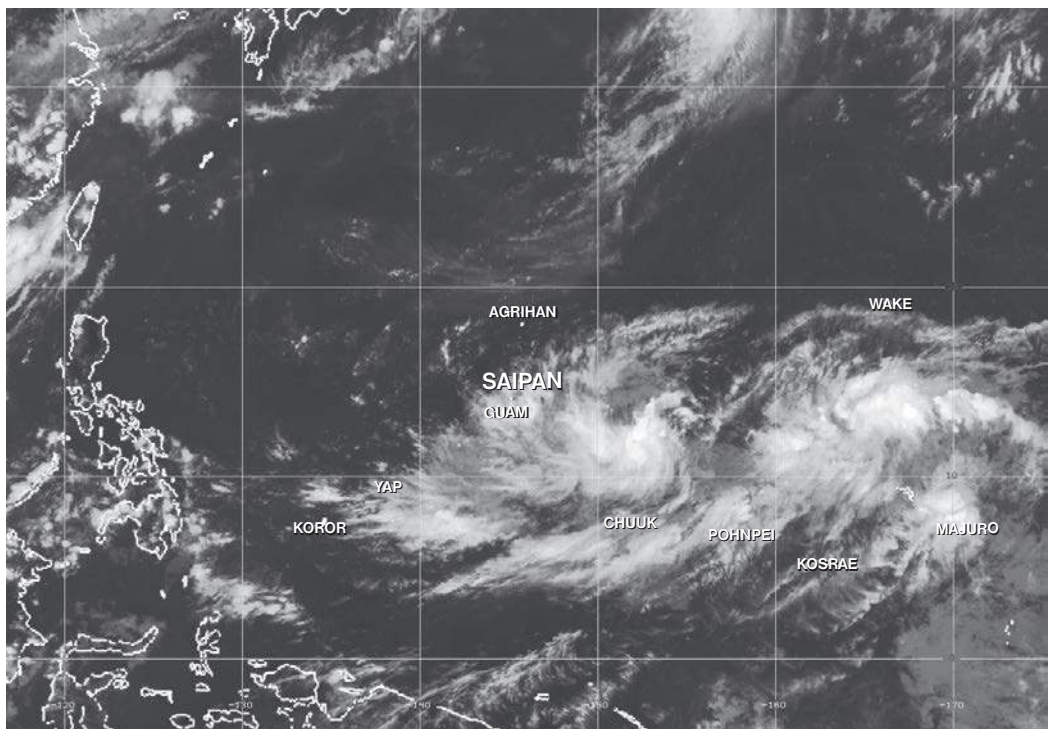
I know this isn't an opinion piece but I wanted to write about Typhoon Soudelor and how it felt as we were going through it. I hope that when people read this poem they would realize that they are not alone and that we can rise above this storm as a community.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85º ▼76º	▲85º ▼76º	▲85º ▼76º	▲87º ▼76º	▲87º ▼77º

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough stretches eastward from the Philippine Sea north of Koror at 11N131E through two developing circulations centered northeast of Chuuk at 12N155E and north of Kwajalein at 13N167E then turns southeastward to beyond 180 at 9N. Widely scattered to scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring over a large area. This area extends from near Yap to south of Guam, then eastward over Chuuk and Pohnpei to north of Kosrae and finally over the Marshall Islands between 4N and 16N from 140E to 176E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲57	▼48
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼68
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲90	▼81
Honolulu	Windy	▲90	▼78
London	Rain	▲70	▼54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲92	▼68
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼76
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲59	▼44
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91	▼77
New York	Sunny	▲85	▼68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲89	▼76
Paris	Showers	▲76	▼60
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲91	▼74
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲90	▼72
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼60
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼58
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲85	▼71
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲91	▼77
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲87	▼67

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:35 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
7:41 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:51 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.1 Feet
9:28 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:42 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:41 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:40 PM
Monday	6:03 AM	6:40 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:39 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:27 AM	6:18 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	7:00 PM
Sunday	7:05 AM	7:39 PM
Monday	7:52 AM	8:18 PM
Tuesday	8:38 AM	8:56 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

36th CRG assists in typhoon recovery efforts

Six airmen from the 36th Contingency Response Group stationed at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam are assisting relief efforts on Saipan following Typhoon Soudelor.

The aerial port team flew aboard a helicopter to the island on Aug. 9 and has been unloading Federal Emergency Management Agency-contracted cargo planes each day since.

"It's humbling that I can come back here and help," said Senior Airman Louie Lacsina, an active duty airman and Saipan-native.

Lacsina, who grew up in the villages of San Antonio and Chalan Kiya, has been moved by the devastation left behind by Soudelor. Hundreds of island residents, including several friends, lost their homes.

"When typhoons hit when I was young, it was a pretty exciting and scary time," he said. "As an adult, I see how painful they can be for a small island like Saipan."

Lacsina is one of several Air Transportation Specialists or "port dogs" who belong to the CRG. These airmen—along with security forces, anti-terrorism personnel, and medics—make up a team that is tailored for disaster relief. They can go anywhere in the world, survey an airfield and establish a base of operations.

In November 2013 they deployed to the Philippines for typhoon relief efforts and in April 2015, to Nepal for earthquake recovery. The 36th CRG unloaded 80 aircraft in the Philippines and more than 200 in Nepal.

Lacsina's skills driving a 10-K All-terrain forklift were on display on the western side of the runway at Saipan International Airport on Wednesday. In tandem with Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Ports Authority and FEMA personnel, the team unloaded a cargo plane that arrived from Manila. In 1 hour and 6 minutes, they moved 45 pallets onto the tarmac for a Customs inspection and then onto flatbed trucks for transport to a central distribution site.

As a result, 53,000 lbs of water, tents, and cots were on their way to the people of Saipan.

Said Lacsina: "They always say, 'your home is where your heart is.'" ***(Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office)***

MC3 KRISTINA D. MARSHALL

Senior Airman Louie Lascina, a native of Saipan, stages cases of water to be distributed to island residents as part of Typhoon Soudelor relief efforts.

MC3 KRISTINA D. MARSHALL

Bureau of Transportation Statistics K-9 handler Joshua Lizama and his dog, Tex, inspect cargo for brown tree snakes at Saipan International Airport.

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New bill levels playing field for Medicare, Medicaid

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has expressed its thanks and support for the U.S. Senate after four senators introduced legislation last week to create new federal rules governing Medicare and Medicaid in U.S territories.

The "Improving the Treatment of the U.S Territories under Federal Health Programs Act of 2015" or S. 1961 treats territories more like states in the U.S. mainland and eliminates the current monetary limit on Medicaid.

It will also provide federal funding to territory hospitals that serve a large number of Medicaid or uninsured users.

This is similar to U.S. House of Representatives Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi's H.R. 2635, which he introduced on June 3.

"Having a Senate version, almost identical to the House version, that improves Medicaid funding, is great news for the CNMI," CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña said.

The bill would create new federal rules governing Medicaid in the territories. Medicaid, the health program for low-income individuals, is funded in part by the federal government and in part by the state or territory government.

In the U.S. mainland, there is no limit on the amount of funding the federal government will provide for Medicaid as long as the state provides its share of matching funds. The federal contribution—known as Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage—can range from 50 percent for the wealthiest states to 83 percent for the poorest states.

In contrast, the amount of funding that the federal government provides to support the Medicaid program in each territory is capped.

Currently, Medicaid gives a little over $6 million each year to the CNMI, which is not enough for the over 15,000 Medicaid-eligible residents of the islands. The current FMAP is 55 percent, largely due to the Affordable Care Act.

As long as a territory government covers individuals whose household income is within these limits, the federal government would fund the territory's Medicaid program as if it were a state Medicaid program, which means that the annual funding cap would be eliminated.

Each territory would also receive an FMAP based on its per capita income. If a territory wants to cover individuals earning higher than 100 percent of the federal poverty level, it will generally be required to use territory, not federal, funds.

One important aspect of the bill is that it would include the territories in the Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) program; in the past, that excluded territories.

"To add DSH in the bill would further benefit the Commonwealth Health Center hospital. The DSH formula allows for an adjustment that brings improved Medicaid reimbursement for providing care to the indigent," Muña said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) noted on his weekly e-newsletter over the weekend that the local match for Medicare drug benefits would be waived and a tax paid to the U.S. Treasury by local insurers as part of the Affordable Care Act would go to insular governments instead.

Muña said that in regards to the waiver of a local match for Medicare drug benefits, any means of reducing the local match will benefit health care overall for our people.

"This is also savings on local funding. In regards to the tax payment to insurers, we need further clarification as to how this is determined. I assume the local insurers such as Calvo's, Staywell, among others, pay taxes as a business from Guam instead of Saipan and if correct, that means that amount paid would go to Guam instead of Saipan," she said.

U.S. Sens. Charles Schumer of New York, Robert Menendez of New Jersey, Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York introduced S. 1961 last week Wednesday.

Man arrested for allegedly stealing air compressors, chainsaw, others

A man was arrested for allegedly stealing two air compressors, a chainsaw, and other items from his parents and a brother who had just returned from off-island military training.

Sean Richard Cabrera Lizama, 41, was arrested for theft, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

A $5,000 cash bail was imposed for Lizama's temporary release. Preliminary hearing will be on Aug. 17 at 9am.

Police said Lizama admitted that he took an air compressor and chainsaw that he then sold to a friend to buy food for his family after Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan.

Lizama claimed that his father, who is in prison, owns the items and allows him to use them.

Police detective Jason T. Tarkong stated in his report that Jacob Cabrera Lizama had just returned from his annual off-island military training and found the items missing from his residence in San Vicente.

Tarkong said Jacob Lizama learned that his brother Sean Lizama took the items.

Jacob Lizama reported missing two air compressors, a chainsaw, four Toyota T100 rims and tires, a 27-inch Toshiba TV, and several tools.

When Jacob Lizama confronted his brother last Friday, Aug. 7, about the missing items, the defendant stated he's going to sell them.

Sean Lizama then opened the trunk of his vehicle and threw down a water container, which bounced and hit Jacob Lizama's right leg, causing minor abrasions. Sean Lizama then drove off in a Jeep Grand Cherokee.

A police officer spotted Sean Lizama driving the Jeep Grand Cherokee on Martinez Road in As Lito and made a violator stop that Friday night. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST

REQUEST FOR QUALIFIED PROPOSALS

EIGHT HOUSES ON SAIPAN AND TWO HOUSES IN SINAPALO, ROTA

The Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) announces this request for qualified proposals for the following:

1. Two-story 5 Bedroom Concrete House located in Kannat Tabla, Saipan – 1 unit
2. Two-story 4 Bedroom Concrete House located in Kagman, Saipan – 1 unit
3. 3 Bedroom Concrete Houses located in Kagman, Saipan – 2 units
4. 2 Bedroom Concrete Houses located in Kagman Saipan – 4 units
5. Two-story 4 Bedroom Concrete House located in Sinapalo, Rota – 1 unit
6. 2 Bedroom Concrete House located in Sinapalo, Rota – 1 unit

MPLT Resolution 10-10-A2 establishes the Supplemental Home Investment Program (SHIP), under the program, MPLT offers these acquired homes in its inventory to qualified persons. The three significant qualification requirements include the following: 1) the homes are offered at the minimum appraised value; 2) each proposer is credit-worthy for debt-service for the amount of the appraised value of the home; and 3) the proposer is certified as qualified under the CNMI Homestead Program with the CNMMI Department of Public Lands, Homestead Division.

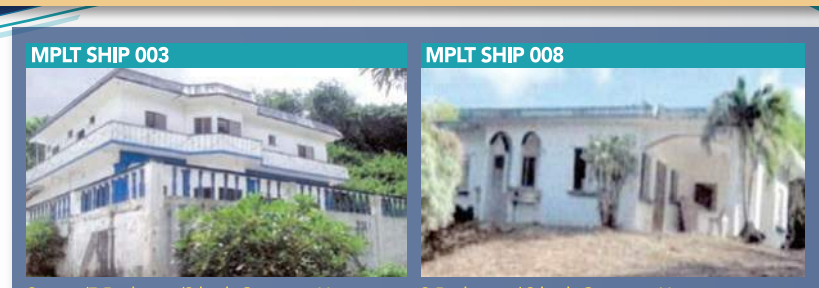
The interest rate is 2% per annum fixed under the program.

Notice is given to all proposers that there are no warranties of any kind as to any of the homes under the SHIP program. Homes are presented for proposals "as is and where is" without warranties as to habitability, suitability or fitness for purpose. It is the responsibility of each interested proposer to inspect or commission an inspection of the property.

In this announcement MPLT solicits qualified proposals for the acquired houses listed above. They are not subject to the right of redemption. Below is a photograph and short description of each home as well as the minimum appraised value. Interested proposers may pick up the application packets at the MPLT Office at House NO. 1222, Capital Hill; or with the MPLT Loan Administrator (Bank of Saipan) in Chalan Kanoa or at **www.mplt.gov.mp**

The deadline for submission of proposals for any of the houses is **Friday, August 28, 2015 at 4:00PM**.

MPLT hereby reserves the right to cancel, modify or reject this RFP and any proposals should the Trustees determine that doing so is in the best interest of the Trust.


MPLT SHIP 003
2-story/5-Bedroom/3-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Kannat Tabla
Appraised Value: $156,000.00

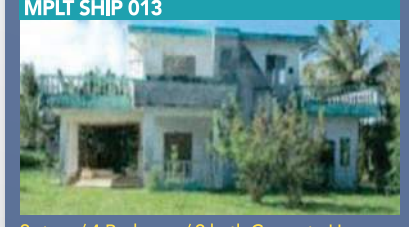
MPLT SHIP 008
3-Bedroom / 2-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Fair Condition
Kagman III
Appraised Value: $44,000.00

MPLT SHIP 009
3-Bedroom / 2-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Kagman III
Appraised Value: $66,000.00

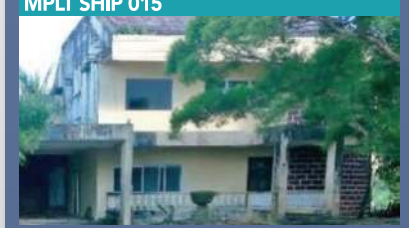
MPLT SHIP 010
2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Kagman III
Appraised Value: $39,000.00

MPLT SHIP 011
2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Kagman III
Appraised Value: $44,000.00

MPLT SHIP 012
2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Kagman III
Appraised Value: $31,000.00


MPLT SHIP 013
2-story / 4-Bedroom / 2-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Fair Condition
Kagman II
Appraised Value: $73,000.00

MPLT SHIP 014
2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Kagman III
Appraised Value: $38,000.00


MPLT SHIP 015
2-story / 4-Bedroom / 3-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Sinapalo, Rota Subdivision
Appraised Value: $50,000.00

MPLT SHIP 016
2-Bedroom / 1-bath Concrete House
Septic tank system
Good Condition
Sinapalo, Rota
Appraised Value: $35,000.00

'MHS is a big mess'

»US Marines conduct cleanup at the campus

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A number of U.S. Marines have been cleaning up of the Marianas High School in Susupe after Typhoon Soudelor left behind a big mess at the campus.

Saipan Tribune saw yesterday before noon about 30 U.S. Marines cutting and removing debris from many fallen trees and transporting them via truck to a dumping site in Marpi.

Cpl. Carter Burgoyne, 21, said they're happy doing the cleanup at MHS to help the community.

Burgoyne is among the 400 U.S. Marines who arrived on the island a few days ago to assist the CNMI in the cleanup and rehabilitation operations.

Burgoyne said the Marines started the cleanup operation at MHS since Wednesday. Many of them came from California and Okinawa. When Soudelor devastated the island, the troops were in Guam.

At MHS, the Marines were armed with chainsaws, machetes, other tools, a backhoe, a dump truck, and two payloaders.

MHS vice principal Glenn Smith said they are very appreciative of the Marines' assistance.

"The cleanup cannot be done without them," Smith said, citing that the Marines have all the necessary tools and equipment and that they move fast.

The vice principal said a huge old tree was uprooted and it took several Marines to get rid of all the debris.

Smith said the gym could be closed indefinitely because the ceiling or the roof came out and the floor was damaged by water and debris.

He said the fence line needs to be fixed after two Department of Public Safety containers fell into it near the gym.

"It's a big mess," Smith said.

Smith said other rooms, particularly facing Beach Road, also sustained damage, but fortunately the classrooms are "pretty good."

Some teachers have been helping in the cleanup. The Public School System is providing meals to the Marines.

Interior provides $3.7M for brown tree snake control

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina announced yesterday $3,673,876 in grant assistance for brown tree snake interdiction and control in Guam, and prevention in the Northern Mariana Islands and Hawaii.

The fiscal year 2015 funding, provided under the Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program, will support and bolster live-trapping and live-baiting of snakes—methods that have proven effective in reducing brown tree snake activity in Guam's forests and port areas. The grant will also support critical rapid-response training and prevention efforts and vital research, as well as re-establish the canine-detector program in Hawaii.

The brown tree snake was unintentionally introduced on Guam sometime after World War II, and has been largely responsible for the extinction of most of Guam's native forest vertebrate species. With the absence of natural predators, the snake has decimated domestic bird populations on Guam and other pets, and caused island-wide power outages affecting residents as well as commercial and military activities.

There is appropriate concern that the introduction

»Funding includes re-establishment of Hawaii Detector Dog Program

of the brown tree snake to other vulnerable areas, such as Hawaii, will have similarly catastrophic ecological and economic impacts as on Guam. The potential cost of a brown tree snake introduction on Hawaii alone has been estimated between $593 million to $2.14 billion annually. Hawaii is also home to one-third of all endangered bird species in the nation. Since Guam is a major transportation hub in the Pacific, numerous opportunities exist for this invasive species to be inadvertently introduced to Hawaii and other areas in the Pacific.

"While I am pleased with the progress of our Brown Tree Snake program, it is imperative that we continue to keep our guard up. We must double our efforts to direct the necessary financial and personnel resources to advanced research, technologies, and programs to address this important issue," said Kia'aina. "The goal is to completely eradicate this species on Guam and prevent it from gaining a foothold in the Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaii, or the Micronesia region."

The funding breakdown is as follows:

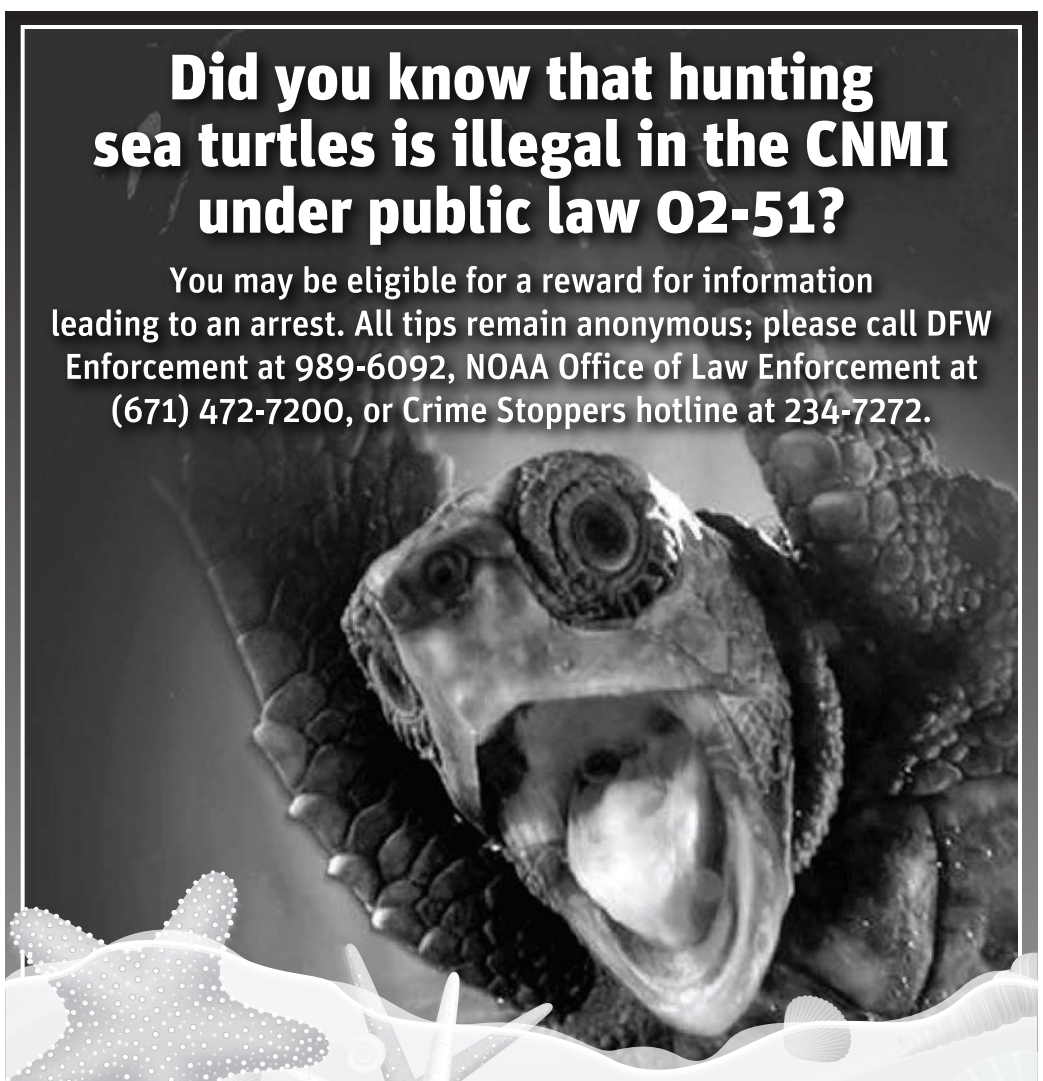
- **USDA National Wildlife Research Center for Phase II of the Automated Aerial Bait Drop System ($237,842)**: NWRC has developed and is in the process of building an automated toxicant delivery system, for dispensing acetaminophen-loaded neonatal mice into Guam's forests via helicopter. This reduces the manpower cost of aerial toxicant drops, thus improving the chances for wide-scale eradication.
- **Hawaii Department of Agriculture for re-establishment of the Hawaii Detector Dog Program ($527,137)**: The detector dog program has proven the best line of defense against brown tree snakes entering Hawaii, as dogs have a much higher rate of catching snakes in cargo than through visual searches.
- **Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service for program coordination ($190,000)**: FWS provides coordination of the program, managing communication between federal and local agencies and organizing the Brown Tree Snake Technical Working Group and Research Committee.
- **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Division of Land and Natural Resources for the CNMI Brown Tree Snake Interdiction Program ($458,952)**: This funding supports the interdiction program in the CNMI, which manages all visual surveys and dog searches to ensure the brown tree snake is prevented from establishing itself on Saipan, Rota, or Tinian.
- **Interior's U.S. Geological Survey for research and development ($1,050,405)**: The USGS in partnership with Colorado State University conducts the majority of brown tree snake research, which aids all other agencies in the best practices for search and eradication efforts. They also maintain the Rapid Response Team, who responds immediately to brown tree snake sightings anywhere in the Pacific. The Rapid Response Team is critical in the interdiction of the snakes spreading through the transportation system and becoming established in other areas.

An additional $1.2 million was provided earlier in this fiscal year for the Guam Interdiction and Control Program administered through the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services and for Phase I of the automated aerial bait drop system administered by the USDA National Wildlife Research Center.

The Brown Tree Snake program is a collaborative effort of federal, state and territorial governments and non-government agencies. Federal partners include Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey as well as USDA's National Wildlife Research Center and USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Service. These Federal partners provide critical support to local government agencies on Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and Hawaii. The team recognizes that ongoing efforts to control and prevent the spread of the brown tree snake are critical to the livelihood, biological diversity, and economies of Micronesia as well as Hawaii. ***(OIA)***

Did you know that hunting sea turtles is illegal in the CNMI under public law 02-51?

You may be eligible for a reward for information leading to an arrest. All tips remain anonymous; please call DFW Enforcement at 989-6092, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement at (671) 472-7200, or Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272.



To report sick, injured, dead or disoriented turtles please call our stranding hotline at **287-8537 (CTR-TLES)**.

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- **LENNOX 15 Ton Cooling Only** w/ Horizontal Conversion Panels & Curb. 460Volt 3 PH. New. 2 at $15,000 Ea.
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- **Lochinvar Copper Fin II Water Heater** Model CFL0752 LPG. 750,000 BTUH Input. New. $9800
- **MGM Transformer**, 300 KVA, 3HP, Primary 208V, secondary 480V Buck Boost Transformer, 150 deg rise, 60HZ, NEMA 3R $9800
- **535 MCM DLO Cable** 750 feet
- **1/0 DLO Cable** 250 feet. $12,000 for all
- **NIBCO F737A Circuit Balancing Valves**, 3" Flg. $350 Each
- **DAIKIN AGZ190D**. Air Cooled Packaged 190 Ton Chiller (RENTAL). 460Volt 3 phase. Used one month. $80,000 to buy or $45,000 per month to Rent.
- **Mitsubishi MSY-D36** and **MUY-D36 36,000BTUH** indoor/outdoor mini-split. (2) New. $3500 Each

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Tan Holdings spearheads cleanups, relief efforts

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA
Tan Holdings employees and members of the company-sponsored football clubs take part in a cleanup of Garapan, led by corporation president Jerry Tan.

Tan Holdings has initiated several cleanup drives in various sites in response to the devastation wrought by Typhoon Soudelor.

Yesterday, employees of the Tan Holdings cleaned up portions of Beach Road in Garapan from TSL Plaza to the Bank of Guam intersection and all the way to Middle Road.

On Wednesday, volunteers were able to clean the Garapan Core from Sgt. Jack Road to Micro Beach Road and all side roads in between up to Beach Road.

"We still have a lot of tourists coming in and I just cannot imagine what they feel when they arrive. They're supposed to be here for resort island for a vacation and then they see all these trees, power poles, and all the trash lying around," said Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, who is personally leading the cleanup drive.

"We thought that maybe one of the things that we can do is go around the Garapan area where there's foot traffic for the tourists," he added.

Tan said that while tourists may still see the destruction in many parts of the island, "at least when they're walking around, they don't feel bad."

Various football clubs sponsored by the company were also able to clean up the San Antonio Middle School football field, Oleai Sports Complex track and field/football field, as well as the Oleai Sports Complex.

Aside from cleaning up, Tan Holdings is also holding various outreach projects to the community, particularly its employees.

"There are about a hundred employees who have lost their homes and are displaced so we put together relief kits with futons and gas burners, portable lantern, and tarps," said Alex Sablan, vice president for corporate business development.

He added that Tan Holdings also gave funds and gifts to the affected employees.

Tan Holdings will soon be handing out relief kits with items from Cosmos, D&Q, 880, and POI Aviation in various villages.

"We're going to the villages and hand it out to those who were afflicted by the storm," Sablan said. "We're actually going to find who are the most vulnerable right now."

Sablan said they will also give out futons to affected employees and families in the shelters.

Diocese of CK announces schedule changes

The Diocese of Chalan Kanoa extends its welcome to everyone, especially those affected by Typhoon Soudelor. Parishes, priests and churches have received and continue to receive both pledges and requests for assistance. For program assistance and guidance, contact Karidat, the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa's service provider, at (670) 234-5100, by e-mail to judypangelinan@karidat.org. Business hours at its offices on the ground floor of the VS Sablan Building is Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm.

Preliminary assessments for our churches are overseen by each respective parish priest and have been ongoing. Due to conditions from the lack or power and water, in addition to a shortage in our clergy base, the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa has issued changes in scheduling for various services and offices, effective immediately and running to Sept. 6, 2015. Contact any parish or priest for the listing of schedule changes. For their respective contact information, you may call Laling Babauta at (670) 234-3000 or email: lalingbabauta@yahoo.com. Information will also be posted on the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofchalankanoa.com

Generally, the changes are:

■ Mass Schedules: Changed for all Saipan parishes and unchanged for Rota and Tinian parishes.

■ The North Star: Publication is suspended for the month of August; the next print is tentatively set for Sept. 6, 2015.

■ Business Hours: Diocesan Curia and the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral Parish will be open from 8am to 12pm on Monday and Wednesday through Saturday. On Tuesdays, business hours are from 8:30am to 12pm. Both will remain closed on Sundays.

■ Joeten Daidai Social Hall: To be determined based on need.

■ Other August setting: The San Roque Fiesta is set for Sunday, Aug. 16, 2015, and will be celebrated with a Mass at 9:30am followed by the village procession. ***(PR)***

FIESTA DONATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Abner Acosta, general manager of Fiesta Resort and Spa, and members of his management team extend a helping hand to residents taking shelter at the Kagman Community Center. Towels, linens, pillows, and ice were turned over to Mary Olopai, who heads the Kagman Community Center.

Lions Club Int'l donates care packages; expects more relief packages next week

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lions Club International donated relief items to the victims of Typhoon Soudelor. Initial care packages worth $3,000 were donated containing toilet tissues, canned goods, crackers, snack bars, and bottled water.

Members of Saipan Marianas Lions Club, Saipan Unity Lions Club and Saipan Fil-American Lions Club distributed the packages to nine shelters: Garapan Elementary School with 45 individuals/11 families; Tanapag Middle School, 48 individuals/12 families; Tanapag Head Start, 40 individuals/11 families; Koblerville Elementary School, 59 individuals/13 families; San Vicente Elementary School, 78 individuals/28 families; Office on Aging, 85 individuals/24 families; Kagman Community Center, 52 individuals/13 families; Kagman High School, 73 individuals/20 families; and Cha-Cha Junior High School, 54 individuals/14 families.

"Even though, the island is devastated, we are still very lucky that there were no casualties. It's a very challenging time for all of us but as long as we all work together, greater things can be accomplished," region chair Lion Ladyvir Canape said.

According to zone chair Lion Mario Mayuga, this is only the initial aid from the Lions Clubs International District 204.

"We are just waiting for the other shipment from Guam, in which we are expecting $10,000 worth of items that are needed, especially by those people who are staying in the shelters and other families who are staying with friends and relatives," Mayuga said.

The group expects a shipment of 12 containers from Guam next week, with various relief goods like beddings, flashlight with batteries, disposable diapers, hand sanitizers, and baby wipes.

The Lions Club is looking for volunteers who can help with sorting the items once they arrive. Those who wish to volunteer may call Canape at 989-2545, Mayuga at 285-1021, region 2 secretary Olive Yana at 989-9823, or region 2 PRO Annamae Adaza at 483-5237.

"The aid for all of us is overwhelming and as always as a Lions Clubs member, we stand with our motto 'We Serve,'" Canape said.

"We are all thankful to our LCI District 204 office headed by our district governor Daniel Yang," she added.

Business

China tries to quell fears of more big devaluations

BEIJING (AP)—China tried Thursday to quell fears its yuan would fall further, saying it is close to market levels following declines that sparked fears of a "currency war" if other governments respond by pushing down their own exchange rates.

There is "no basis for persistent and substantial devaluation," said a deputy central bank governor, Zhang Xiaohui, at a news conference. Zhang said the yuan is close to "market levels" after two days of declines.

The yuan fell 1.9 percent on Tuesday after a surprise change in exchange rate policy that Beijing said was aimed at making the tightly controlled currency more market-oriented. It fell again Wednesday and by midday on Thursday was down 0.3 percent. Those falls amount to a 3.1 percent drop for the week.

Shock waves from the devaluation had spread through financial markets, causing stocks and Asian currencies to tumble.

Thursday's central bank comments came after analysts said allowing market forces free rein could drive the yuan sharply lower.

"It is very possible that we could see a 10 to 15 percent drop in the exchange rate against the U.S. dollar in the next week or two," said Duncan Innes-Ker of The Economist Intelligence Unit in a research note.

Investors saw Beijing's move as an effort to benefit its exporters but many economists rejected that view because global demand is weak.

AP

In this Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015 photo, a bank clerk counts Chinese currency notes at a bank outlet in Huaibei in central China's Anhui province.

The yuan's decline was small compared with fluctuations of freely traded currencies. But after a decade of little or no movement, the change rattled financial markets and threatened to fan political tensions with Europe and the United States.

While the International Monetary Fund welcomed Beijing's support for market forces, the change sparked complaints in Washington by lawmakers who accuse Beijing of manipulating its currency to gain a trade advantage.

"This move may also trigger a new currency war" if central banks respond by trying to depress their country's own exchange rates, said Nicholas Teo of CMC Markets in a report.

Asian currencies declined Wednesday as the lower yuan weighed on prices in markets where China is a major trader. Malaysia's ringgit and the Indonesia rupiah plunged to their lowest levels in 17 years. The Singapore dollar, Taiwan dollar and Philippine peso fell to five-year lows.

US hiring reaches six-month high in June; quits also rise

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. employers filled more of their available jobs in June, evidence that steady if modest economic growth is putting more Americans to work.

The Labor Department said Wednesday that total hiring rose 2.3 percent to 5.18 million in June, the most in six months and second-highest total since the recession ended in June 2009.

Employers posted fewer job openings, but that figure has risen strongly in the past year. And more people quit their jobs, which is a good sign because many people quit when they have new jobs lined up, typically at higher pay. More hiring, quitting and healthy levels of job openings could pressure companies to lift wages.

Hiring and quits "remain at levels consistent with a pick-up in wage growth over the medium-term," said Jeremy Schwartz, an analyst at Credit Suisse. "Indeed, this is a key reason to believe recent weakness in average hourly earnings ... may be temporary."

Job gains have been strong for the past two years but sluggish pay increases remain a weak spot in the economy.

Average hourly pay rose just 2.1 percent in July compared with a year earlier, the government said last week. That is far below the 3.5 percent to 4 percent gains that usually occur in a healthy economy.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

US budget deficit swells in July due to calendar quirk

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. government ran a much higher budget deficit in July than a year ago, but it's still on track for the lowest full-year deficit in eight years. The Treasury Department said Wednesday that the July deficit totaled $149.2 billion, up from a deficit of $94.6 billion a year earlier. The deterioration stemmed mainly from the fact that Aug. 1 fell on a Saturday. As a result, the government paid out $42 billion in August benefits in late July instead. Through the first 10 months of this budget year, the deficit stood at $465.5 billion, 1.1 percent higher than a year ago. The outlook for the full year looks more promising. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the year-end total will drop to around $425 billion, making it the lowest deficit since 2007. The expected improvement this year reflects a strengthening economy, with tax revenues rising as more people find jobs and the government pays out less in unemployment benefits.

South Korea president pardons business tycoon

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's President Park Geun-hye on Thursday pardoned a tycoon convicted of embezzlement who heads the country's third-largest business group. The justice ministry said in a statement that SK Group's Chey Tae-won will be among some 6,500 people to be released from prison before the 70th anniversary Saturday of Korea's liberation from Japan's colonial occupation. It said the government decided on pardons for 14 business people including Chey based on their contributions to the national economy. Chey was serving a 4-year prison term that began in January 2013 after being found guilty of embezzling company funds to trade financial products. He remained chairman of SK Group while in prison.

Dr. Pepper takes 11.7 pct. stake in Gatorade rival BodyArmor

PLANO, Texas (AP)—Dr. Pepper Snapple is making a $20 million investment in BodyArmor, a rival of PepsiCo's Gatorade brand. That gives Dr. Pepper an 11.7 percent stake in BA Sports Nutrition LLC, the company that introduced BodyArmor in 2012. Among existing investors in the brand is NBA star Kobe Bryant. Dr. Pepper Snapple Group Inc. has carried BodyArmor in its direct store delivery network since 2013, and plans to expand the product line over the next year. The company said Wednesday that the terms of the transaction won't have a material impact on its financial statements.

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB15-DFEMS-115
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 26, 2015 TIME: 10:30 AM

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF 140 COMPLETE SET OF BRAND NEW 2015 MODEL YEAR FIREFIGHTER TURN-OUT GEAR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in any bid in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/S/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA
Comissioner, DFEMS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB15-DFEMS-114
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 26, 2015 TIME: 10:00 AM

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TWO (2) 2015 MODEL YEAR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT TO BE USED FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICALS SERVICES"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in any bid in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/S/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA
Comissioner, DFEMS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:
SHANSHAN ALISON SMITH
Minor Child
By
MICHAEL SMITH
Petitioner(s)

] FCD-AD
] CIVIL ACTION
] NO. 15-0358

NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 8/24/15 at 9:00am in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Camacho.

DATED, this 10th day of August, 2015.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Jenny U. Francisco
Petitioner,
vs.
Jose F. Francisco
Respondent,

FCD-D1 CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0328

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEARBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make the Complaint, a copy of which is on file within the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 503210, Saipan, MP, 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2015

/s/ Clerk of Court

NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF LEASE

THIS TERMINATION is done this 10th day of August, 2015, by **Lee Roy Villagomez**, successor in interest to the late Felix B. Villagomez, original Lessor of the premises concerned.

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, successor Lessor hold the fee interest in certain real property identified as Lot 005 I 041, containing an area of 970 square meters, more or less, as more particularly shown on the Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 01, the original of which was recorded with the Land Registry, Saipan, as Document No. 16706, registered on March 11, 1983, by virtue of partida and deed of gift (Exhibit 1) from the original fee owner, his father, Felix B. Villagomez; and

WHEREAS, a leasehold interest in the subject property was conveyed in 1990, as recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder as Document No. 90-5033A, which leasehold interest ultimately was assigned to Seo, Sun Ok and Seo, Kyung Woon on May 3, 1991, and recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder on May 3, 1991, as Document No. 91-2231; and

WHEREAS, Seo, Sun Ok and Seo, Kyung Woon subsequently abandoned the premises and thus breached and defaulted on the lease for that and other reasons;

NOW, THEREFORE:

THAT LEASEHOLD, pursuant to the recitals aforesaid, created in 1990, as recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder as Document NO. 90-5033A, as assigned to Seo, Sun Ok and Seo, Kyung Woon on May 3, 1991, and recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder on May 3, 1991, as Document No. 91-2231, be and hereby is TERMINATED and hereafter and forever shall be null and void, respecting the following premises on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 005 I 041, containing an area of 970 square meters, more or less, as more particularly shown on the Drawing/Cadastral Plat NO. 005 I 01, the original of which was recorded with the Land Registry, Saipan, as Document NO. 16706, registered on March 11, 1983.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, successor Lessor has hereunder set his hand the day and date below set forth.

SUCCESSOR LESSOR:

/s/ LEE ROY VILLAGOMES
DATE: August 10, 2015

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 502149 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. Nos.: (670) 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
Fax No.: (670) 235-7147
Email Address: administration@cda.gov.mp
Website: www.cda.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE
August 12, 2015

DUE TO THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF TYPHOON SOUDELOR, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO CDA CLIENTS BY MEANS OF LOAN PAYMENT DEFERMENT OF THREE (3) MONTHS AND ADDITIONAL THREE (3) MONTHS IF NECESSARY; AND, CONCURRENTLY CEASES ALL ACCRUING INTERESTS DURING THIS PERIOD.

ALL CDA CLIENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT CDA AND SUBMIT THEIR REQUEST IN WRITING, ATTENTION:

Mr. Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director
Commonwealth Development Authority
P.O. Box 502149
CDA Building, 2nd Floor, Oleai
Saipan, MP 96950

Or email at:

administration@cda.gov.mp or loan@cda.gov.mp

Nation

As anniversary and protests fade, Ferguson looks ahead

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—By Wednesday, police outnumbered protesters in the St. Louis suburb that launched the "Black Lives Matter" movement, signaling that the nightly demonstrations could be fading after the anniversary of Michael Brown's death. But Ferguson, and the issues that elevated it to national prominence, are sure to be closely watched in the months to come. A look at what's ahead:

ACTIVISTS KEEP GOING

A protest organizer says the cause could now pivot to focus more on statehouses and corporate America.

Nabeehah Azeez says civil rights coalitions will keep calling for economic boycotts, pressing for colorblind police practices and lobbying for criminal justice reforms.

"There are various ways of protests, and we don't have to be in the streets," Azeez said. "It's going to take several different tactics ... until we see real systematic change. I don't think any of us are naive to think it will happen overnight."

AP

In this Sunday, Aug. 9, 2015, file photo, supporters of Michael Brown wear shirts with his picture and the message "Chosen 4 Change," as they participate in a remembrance ceremony at the spot where Brown was shot and killed, in Ferguson, Mo.

Azeez considered the Ferguson protests "meaningful in showing the world the power of community, collective love and healing."

"Ferguson is a very small problem with a magnifying glass over it," she said. "But Ferguson is not our only problem. We have a whole region, state, country and world that is our target."

FERGUSON FACES HIRING DECISIONS

The city has a daunting to-do list, including hiring a permanent city manager and police chief.

The community is on its third police chief since March, when the former chief, the city manager and the municipal judge all stepped down after a scathing Justice Department report. It blasted the police force for racial bias and the municipal court system for being a profit-driven enterprise that often targeted blacks.

Hired last month as Ferguson's interim chief, Andre Anderson is on a six-month leave from his job as a police commander in suburban Phoenix. He has said he would welcome the job permanently.

Ferguson also has an interim city manager and soon will have to replace the municipal judge who took over after the previous judge resigned. Within months, the replacement judge will be required by law to retire because of his age.

All the while, Ferguson continues negotiating with the Justice Department over how to overhaul the city's police department and municipal courts. The city is also defending itself against a wrongful-death lawsuit filed by Brown's parents.

Statewide, Gov. Jay Nixon has asked a state commission and the Missouri Department of Public Safety to update law enforcement standards focusing on tactical training, fair policing and the physical and mental health of officers. Those standards have not been updated since 1996. He wants proposals by Dec. 1.

THE QUEST FOR AN INDEPENDENT PROBE

Activists continue their legal efforts to get an independent probe into the handling of grand jury proceedings in Brown's death.

Four activists are appealing a St. Louis County judge's ruling last month that tossed out their lawsuit, which seeks a special prosecutor to review the way St. Louis County prosecutor Robert McCulloch oversaw the process.

A grand jury last November declined to indict white Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of 18-year-old Brown, who was black and unarmed. Wilson, who later resigned, was also cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice.

The activists have asked the Missouri Court of Appeals to consider the matter.

MILITARY SEEKS RETURN OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Obama administration wants Missouri to retrieve two surplus Humvees from Ferguson, at least for now.

The Humvees were distributed under a national program that offers surplus military equipment and weapons to local police forces. But the Pentagon, citing a records discrepancy, is recalling two of the vehicles after learning Ferguson was given four Humvees in 2013—twice as many as it was authorized to get.

Jimmy Carter says he has cancer, revealed by recent surgery

ATLANTA (AP)—Former President Jimmy Carter, who at age 90 still travels the world supporting the humanitarian endeavors that have consumed his time in the decades since he left office, announced Wednesday he has cancer that has spread to other parts of his body.

"Recent liver surgery revealed that I have cancer that now is in other parts of my body," Carter said in the statement released by the Carter Center. "I will be rearranging my schedule as necessary so I can undergo treatment by physicians at Emory Healthcare."

The statement makes clear that Carter's cancer is widely spread but not where it originated, or even if that is known at this point. The liver is often a place where cancer spreads and less commonly is the primary source of it. The statement said further information will be provided when more facts are known, "possibly next week."

AP

In this Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014 photo, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter speaks during a forum in Boston.

Carter announced on Aug. 3 that he had surgery to remove a small mass from his liver.

Good wishes poured in on social media after Carter's announcement, while President Barack Obama said he and first lady Michelle Obama wish Carter a fast and full recovery.

"Jimmy, you're as resilient as they come, and along with the rest of America, we are rooting for you," Obama said in a statement.

Carter was the nation's 39th president, defeating Gerald Ford in 1976 with a pledge to always be honest.

Before his career in politics, Carter graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and served seven years in the Navy submarine force.

A Georgia peanut farmer who had been a state senator and governor of Georgia for a single term before running for president, Carter ended up seeing his second term for president doomed by a number of foreign policy conflicts, most especially the Iran hostage crisis—losing in a landslide to Ronald Reagan in 1980.

Judge orders Kentucky clerk to issue gay marriage licenses

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP)—A county clerk in Kentucky will not immediately issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, her lawyer says, despite a federal judge ordering her to do so Wednesday in a case that seeks to reconcile the country's new marriage law and its protections of religious freedom.

Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis was one of a handful of local elected officials across the country that stopped issuing all marriage licenses after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage nationwide in June. Two gay couples and two straight couples sued her in federal court in the first lawsuit of its kind in the country.

County clerks issue marriage licenses in Kentucky, but someone else must "solemnize" the marriage before the license can be filed with the county clerk. Davis argued that issuing a marriage license to a same-sex couple that contains her signature is the same as her approving the marriage, which she said violates her Christian beliefs. But U.S. District Judge David Bunning rejected that argument, saying Davis has likely violated the U.S. Constitution's ban on the government establishing a religion by "openly adopting a policy that promotes her own religious convictions at the expenses of others."

"Davis remains free to practice her Apostolic Christian beliefs. She may continue to attend church twice a week, particiate in Bible Study and minister to female inmates at the Rowan County Jail. She is even free to believe that marriage is a union between one man and one woman, as many Americans do," Bunning wrote. "However, her religious convictions cannot excuse her from performing the duties that she took an oath to perform as Rowan County Clerk."

Despite the court's ruling, Davis' attorney, Roger Gannam, said Davis does not intend to issue any licenses until "we've exhausted all of our options to protect her rights." Gannam filed his notice of appeal about an hour after Bunning's order.

"This lawsuit has never been about them getting married; they could have done that any time," he said, suggesting the couples could have gone to the next county and applied for a license there. "This lawsuit is about forcing Kim Davis to violate her religious liberty."

With email troubles persisting, Clinton camp reassures backers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Try as she might to focus on the policies she wants to enact if elected president, Hillary Rodham Clinton just can't dig out of her inbox.

Clinton's email problems are getting worse. She agreed to turn over her private server to the Justice Department this week on the same day Congress got word that at least two emails that traversed the device while she was secretary of state contained information that warranted one of the government's highest levels of classification.

The developments suggest the investigation into the security of Clinton's email setup could run deep into 2016, as she is trying to win the Democratic nomination for president and, potentially, the general election.

Clinton campaign aides argue there's nothing for investigators to find, and the State Department says it's not yet clear if the material at issue ought to be considered classified at all.

What worries Clinton's team is the lingering whiff of political scandal in a tightening primary race, and they pushed back hard on Wednesday, trying their best to dismiss the matter as nothing more than politics.

"Look, this kind of nonsense comes with the territory of running for president. We know it, Hillary knows it, and we expect it to continue from now until Election Day," campaign communications director Jennifer Palmieri wrote in an email to campaign supporters.

While her Democratic rivals have yet to seize on the issue, it has become a major part of the GOP case against Clinton.

"I think it's about time that she dealt with the consequences of this," said GOP candidate and Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker. "This is something that isn't just a matter of her not being able to tell the truth; this is something that has put national security at risk and highly questions her ability to be the commander in chief of the United States."

Asia

Some 44 dead in warehouse blasts at China port

AP

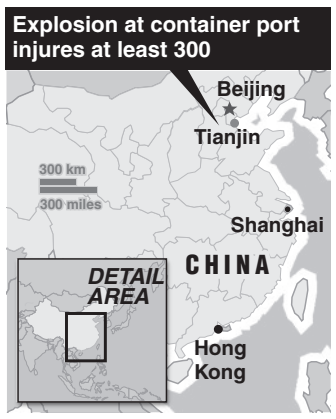
In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, smoke rise from the site of explosions from a nearby building in the Binhai New Area in northeastern China's Tianjin municipality, Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015.

TIANJIN, China (AP)—Huge explosions in a warehouse district sent up massive fireballs that turned the night sky into day, killing at least 44 people and injuring hundreds in the Chinese port city of Tianjin, officials and witnesses said Thursday.

Twelve of the dead were from among the more than 1,000 firefighters sent to fight the blaze set off by the explosions shortly before midnight, the official Xinhua News agency said. It said 520 people were being treated in hospitals, 66 of them with serious injuries.

The blasts, originating at a warehouse for hazardous material, turned buildings in the immediate vicinity into charred, skeletal shells while shattering windows up to several kilometers (miles) away.

"I thought it was an earthquake, so I rushed downstairs without my shoes on," said Tianjin resident Zhang Siyu, whose home is several kilometers from the blast site. "Only once I was outside did I realize it was an explosion. There was the huge fireball in the sky with thick clouds. Everybody could see it."



Sources: AP
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

Zhang said she could see wounded people weeping. She said she did not see anyone who had been killed, but "I could feel death."

There was no indication of what caused the blasts, and no immediate sign of any large release of toxic chemicals into the air. Beijing News said there was some unidentified yellow foam on the ground at the site, although it was not clear if this was contamination or part of the fire-fighting efforts.

"It was like what we were told a nuclear bomb would be like," said truck driver Zhao Zhencheng, who spent the night in the cab of his truck after the blasts. "I've never even thought I'd see such a thing. It was terrifying, but also beautiful."

Police in Tianjin said an initial blast took place at shipping containers in a warehouse for hazardous materials owned by Ruihai Logistics, a company that says it is properly approved to handle such materials. State media said senior management of the company had been detained by authorities, and that President Xi Jinping has demanded severe punishment for anyone found responsible for the explosions.

Indonesia navy nabs cargo ship loaded with slave-caught fish

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A massive refrigerated cargo ship believed to be loaded with slave-caught fish was seized by Indonesia's navy and brought to shore after The Associated Press informed authorities that it had entered the country's waters, officials said Thursday.

The Thai-owned Silver Sea 2 was located late Wednesday and escorted about 80 miles (130 kilometers) to a naval base in Sabang on the Indonesian archipelago's northwestern tip, said Col. Sujatmiko, the local naval chief.

The AP used a satellite beacon signal to trace its path from Papua New Guinea waters, where it was also being sought, into neighboring Indonesia. The navy then spent a week trying to catch it. The ship was close to leaving Indonesian waters by the time it was finally seized.

"I'm so overwhelmed with happiness," said Fisheries Minister Susi Pudjiastuti. "It was almost impossible, but we did it."

The Silver Sea 2 is the same 2,285-ton vessel captured in a high-resolution satellite photo last month in Papua New Guinea showing its hold open and two fishing trawlers tethered to each side, loading fish. The smaller wooden vessels were identified by analysts as the ones that fled a remote Indonesian island earlier this year, crewed by enslaved men from poor Southeast Asian countries who are routinely beaten and forced to work nearly nonstop with little or no pay.

An AP investigation revealed their catch reached the supply chains of major U.S. food sellers, such as Wal-Mart, Sysco and Kroger, and American pet food companies, including Fancy Feast, Meow Mix and Iams. The businesses have all said they strongly condemn labor abuse and vowed to take steps to prevent it.

Pudjiastuti freed hundreds of men earlier this year after the AP exposed they were trapped—including some locked in a cage—on the island village of Benjina. But 34 boats loaded with slaves escaped before authorities arrived. They remain missing.

Pudjiastuti, who put a moratorium on all foreign fishing last year, said the Silver Sea 2 captain will be questioned, and an investigation will be launched into suspected human trafficking, transport of illegally caught fish and offloading at sea, which allows fishermen to work for months on end without returning to port, making it easier for their captains to exploit them.

World

Truck bomb in Baghdad market kills 58

BAGHDAD (AP)—A massive truck bomb ripped through a popular Baghdad food market in a predominantly Shiite neighborhood in the early morning hours on Thursday, killing at least 58 people, police officials said.

The truck detonated in the Jameela market in the Iraqi capital's crowded Sadr City neighborhood shortly after dawn, according to two local police officers. They also said that at least 89 people were wounded in the attack.

Residents of the Shiite community rushed to help the victims, carrying corpses in garbage bags and sending the wounded to local hospitals in ambulances or in personal cars. The blast incinerated much of the market, leaving charred wooden market stalls and scattering fruits and vegetables far around it.

Fire trucks and ambulances rushed to the scene and fire men were dousing the still-smoldering complex with water long after the explosion.

"On Thursdays the market is especially crowded because people come from the other provinces to stock up on food for the weekend," one of the officers said.

He said the truck that set off the explosion was a refrigeration truck, so it was impossible to distinguish it from other trucks delivering produce to the market.

Four hospital officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to speak to the media.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but Islamic State militants commonly target military checkpoints or predominantly Shiite neighborhoods such as Sadr City, with the goal of sending a message to the Shiite-dominated government in Baghdad.

While near-daily attacks are common in the capital, death tolls have rarely reached this level for a single attack since the height of the country's brutal sectarian bloodletting in 2006 and 2007.

The Sunni militant group currently holds territory in about a third of Iraq. They view Shiite Muslims, as well as other religious minorities, as apostates.

When they launched their major onslaught across northern Iraq last year, they vowed to continue on to Baghdad. But a mobilization of volunteer Shiite fighters deterred any significant attacks on the capital.

US F-16 fighters fly first missions from Turkey

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. on Wednesday launched its first airstrikes by Turkey-based F-16 fighter jets against Islamic State targets in Syria, marking a limited escalation of a yearlong air campaign that critics have called excessively cautious.

In a brief statement the Pentagon announced the F-16 strikes were launched from Incirlik air base in southern Turkey but provided no details on the number or types of targets struck.

A U.S. defense official said later that two of the six F-16s based at Incirlik flew the mission over Syria to hit one or more targets that had been selected in advance. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss details of the mission.

Earlier this month the U.S. began flying armed drones from Incirlik, but the F-16 flights add a new dimension to the air campaign, in part because of the added risk to pilots who might encounter Syrian or other air defenses.

Pentagon officials have said the main advantage of using Incirlik is its proximity to Islamic State targets in northern Syria, although a senior U.S. defense official said Wednesday that the F-16s may also be used on missions over Iraq. The official was not authorized to discuss F-16 mission details publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Most U.S. aerial combat missions over Iraq and Syria are being flown from more distant air bases in Qatar and elsewhere in the Persian Gulf region, although the U.S. also is flying F-16s from Muwaffaq Salti air base in Jordan.

WORLD BRIEFS

Helicopter flying from oil rig crashes in Nigeria, killing 4

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—A helicopter traveling from an oil rig crashed into the lagoon in Nigeria's commercial capital, Lagos, killing four people on Wednesday, according to aviation officials. The helicopter belongs to Bristow, a Houston, Texas-based firm that charters helicopters to oil and gas companies, said spokesman Yakubu Dati of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria. Dati said four people died and eight survived. Injured victims were taken to the hospital, according to the National Emergency Management Agency. Bristow said in a statement that it was still working to identify those on board and the extent of any injuries. It said preliminary information indicated the chopper was carrying two crew and eight passengers. The nationalities of those involved weren't immediately known.

Split among South Sudan rebels threatens peace efforts

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)—Two top rebel generals have defected from South Sudan's rebel movement, a rebel official said Wednesday, as the country's warring factions negotiated in Ethiopia to secure a deal to end war in the world's newest country. The rebel generals, identified as Peter Gadet and Gathoth Gatkuoth, defected and fled to Sudan after rebel leader Riek Machar removed them from their senior command positions, Puoch Riek told The Associated Press. Puoch Riek, a member of the rebel delegation here, said no rebel fighters had defected with the generals and he insisted the rebel movement is still under the command of Machar, the former vice president whose dismissal in July 2013 sparked a political crisis that led to the rebellion against President Salva Kiir.

Letters show how humans priced for sale during slave trade

LONDON (AP)—Researchers at Britain's Cambridge University have released letters showing how slaves were priced for sale during the 18th century, giving an insight into the wealth and influence behind the pro-slavery lobby at the time. St. John's College, which released the papers Thursday, said the papers helped show the powerful vested interests that the abolitionists had to fight against—an often-neglected side of the story. The papers date from the 1770s to the 1790s—during the peak of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade in Britain and America—and deal with the operation of a Jamaica sugar plantation run by English businessman William Philip Perrin. One list containing details of slaves to be bought for Perrin's plantation included entries such as "Dick, 25, able field negro, 140 pounds" and "Castile, 45, cook and washerwoman, 60 pounds." The total valuation for 54 male and female slaves came to 5,100 pounds, which researchers say is equal to around 500,000 pounds ($782,000) today.

Off The Wall

Teen finds gold bar in German lake

The photo released by the police in Rosenheim on Aug. 12, 2015 shows a gold bar that was found by a teenager when swimming in a lake near Berchtesgaden. AP

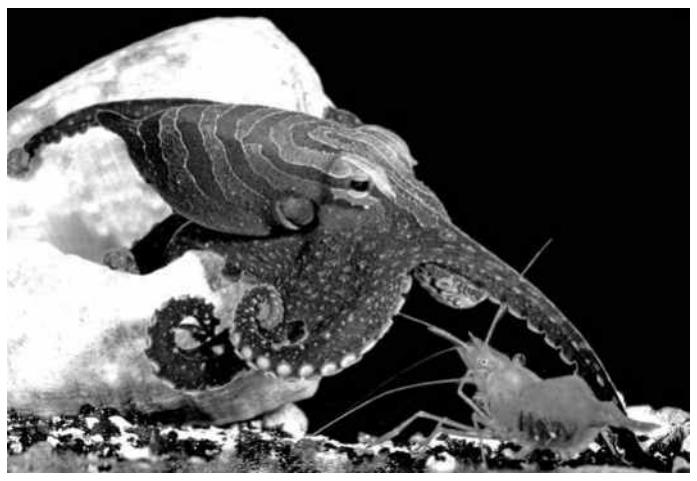
BERLIN (AP)—A teenager has made an unexpected find while swimming in a lake in the German Alps: a 500-gram (17.6-ounce) bar of gold.

Police said Wednesday that they are still trying to figure out where the bar comes from and how it got into the Koenigssee lake, a popular tourist destination near Berchtesgaden on the border with Austria.

The 16-year-old girl, who was on vacation, found it around 2 meters (6 1/2 feet) under the surface on Friday and handed it in to police.

Divers on Tuesday carried out a thorough search of the area around where the bar was found, but didn't find any more gold or other valuables.

Octopus species that's weirdly social, romantic



AP

This handout photo provided by Roy L. Caldwell shows a LPSO male A15 canteleve large Pacific striped octopus about to catch a shrimp.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The octopus already is an oddball of the ocean. Now biologists have rediscovered a species of that eight-arm sea creature that's even stranger and shares some of our social and mating habits.

With their shifting shapes, mesmerizing eyes, and uncanny intelligence, octopuses "are one of the most mysterious and captivating species," said Rich Ross, a senior biologist at the California Academy of Sciences. "They're aliens alive on our planet and it feels like they have plans."

For Ross and colleagues, it got stranger when they got a batch of octopuses from Central America to study. The critters just didn't fit the loner denizen-of-the-deep profile that scientists had drawn for the rest of the 300 or so octopus species.

While most octopuses live alone, coming together for ever-so-brief and dangerous mating, couples of this species can live together to mate for a few days in the same cramped den or shell.

While other male octopuses mate from a distance to avoid being cannibalized, these octopuses mate entangled beak-to-beak. That style could almost be thought of as romantic, said Alvaro Roura, an octopus expert at La Trobe University in Australia, who wasn't part of the study.

While other females lay one batch of eggs and then die, the female of this species lives longer and produces eggs constantly, bettering the species chance of survival, Ross said.

But it's more than sex. These octopuses clean out food waste from their dens. They twirl their arms like an old-timey movie villain with a moustache. And they quickly learn that people mean food: when someone enters the room, they leave their dens and head to the top of the tank.

"It's the most amazing octopus that I've ever gotten to work with," Ross said.

The octopus, normally a dull chocolate brown, suddenly sports stripes and spots when it gets excited or upset, said Roy Caldwell of the University of California, Berkeley. He is the lead author of a paper on the octopus with Ross and others published Wednesday in the journal PLOS One.

The species is preliminarily called the Larger Pacific Striped Octopus, although it's really not much bigger than a tennis ball - just bigger than a similar species.

It was found almost 40 years ago off the coast of Panama. Other scientists wouldn't believe it was a separate species or that it showed such distinctive behavior. So its discoverer, Arcadio Rodaniche, gave up and the species was never formally described or named.

Then in 2011, Caldwell got an email from a high school student about his pet octopus, Charlie. It was the same species discovered in the 1970s. Caldwell traced it to a dealer who sent him two dozen of the species from Panama, Nicaragua and Mexico to study in captivity. The researchers note that this octopus species could act differently in the wild.

They included Rodaniche as a co-author after the retired researcher declined to let them name the octopus species after him.

In the journal Nature, a different team of scientists on Wednesday published the first map decoding octopus genes. They found the octopus's genetic code is only slightly smaller than humans, but twice as big as a bird's genetic instruction guide.

Octopuses are invertebrates, meaning they have no backbones. Invertebrates generally have a less evolved nervous systems, but not the octopus. They found that it had many of the same genes as other invertebrates, although mixed up as through a blender, said study author Clifton Ragsdale at the University of Chicago.

"There's a lot of weird creatures and these are the largest of the weird creatures," he said.

Science & Technology

Startup company brings Disney's Star Wars BB-8 droid toy to life

In this July 24, 2015 photo, examples of the remote controlled ball toy called Sphero sit are held by an employee at Sphero, a fast-growing toy robotics company in Boulder, Colo. AP

GLENDALE, Calif. (AP)—If it weren't for someone willing to entertain a new idea, the new "Star Wars" droid, BB-8, wouldn't be rolling into living rooms this holiday season.

The robot—which looks like a mechanical head on a spinning ball—was the brainchild of filmmakers behind "Star Wars: Episode VII—The Force Awakens," who were unaware their puppetry-animated character could function in real life.

But in July 2014, the CEO of Lucasfilm-parent Disney, Bob Iger, showed secret images of BB-8 to a startup company called Sphero. It was one of the inaugural class of companies Disney brought into a three-month program meant to nurture their entrepreneurial spirit and maybe generate a money-making product.

It was like Force lightning hitting pay dirt.

Sphero's founders dummied up a functioning prototype that very night, an innovation that now sits in a special locked room in its headquarters in Boulder, Colorado.

"Imagine sitting down with Bob Iger and him pointing to something the whole world wants to know about," said Sphero CEO Paul Berberian. "And you get to see something that you've been working on. What a magical stroke of luck."

Disney's "accelerator" is the kind of program being adopted by big companies like Microsoft, Barclays, Nike and Volkswagen. The idea is to invest a small amount in a handful of startups, set them up in cheap office space, mentor them, and launch them on a trajectory for more funding, product development, and possibly business deals.

Disney now plans to give the BB-8 toy made by Sphero a big push in September online and in Disney Stores before the movie opens in December. It also took a minority stake in Sphero, which has raised $81 million so far.

Kevin Mayer, Disney's chief strategy officer, says the accelerator program is less about earning a quick profit and more about dreaming up innovative products and injecting Disney's upper management with energy and ideas.

TECH Q&A

Not all iPhone data is backed up in the cloud

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: My iPhone 5s is set to automatically back up to Apple's iCloud service. But when I check my account, the only "contacts" being saved are those with a phone number. Contacts with only an email address aren't being backed up. How do I get the backup to save all my contacts?—Jack Botterbusch, Jacksonville, Fla.

A: Automatic iCloud backups of your phone don't include email contacts, or other categories of personal information such as email, calendars and notes. You need to choose a separate backup location for each of those categories, one at a time. For a complete list of what iCloud's automatic backup doesn't routinely save, see tinyurl.com/q6bmuyh.

Since you emailed me using Yahoo Mail, I assume that's what you use on your phone. To back up your contacts, tap the iPhone's "settings" icon, choose "mail, contacts, calendars," and select the heading for Yahoo. On the next screen, make sure your Yahoo account is selected as the place where you'd like your iPhone information saved. Then choose separately whether to have your contacts, email, calendars or notes backed up to Yahoo.

This also works in reverse. If you add data to those categories on your computer, the new information shows up on your iPhone. How quickly it shows up depends on your iPhone's settings. To see what I mean, go to "mail, contacts, calendars" and select "fetch new data." If you select "push," new data arrives right away. Otherwise, you can choose to update phone data every 15, 30 or 60 minutes, or only when you manually pull your finger down from the top of the screen while in contacts, email, calendars or notes. Updating less often conserves battery power.

Q: Three readers asked about features that are missing in Windows 10. Larry Miller of Paso Robles, Calif., wondered why his computer can't find his CD-DVD drive following an upgrade to Windows 10. Byron Douglass of Eden Prairie, Minn., and Howard Arnold of Arroyo Grande, Calif., asked what software they could use to receive TV on a PC if they upgrade to Windows 10, which lacks the Windows Media Center software that handled that task.

A: Windows 10 can't find a DVD drive because it contains no DVD-playing software. But Microsoft is offering downloadable DVD player software for Windows 10 that costs $15 (see tinyurl.com/ov8dmuh.) A free alternative program is VLC media player (see tinyurl.com/4ffbj.)

There are software alternatives to Windows Media Center, but check with your cable provider or your PC's TV tuner manufacturer to see if the software is compatible with video copy-protection software that limits how some programs can be recorded.

Free programs include MediaPortal (see tinyurl.com/9zhvw and tinyurl.com/ccnhph7) and Kodi (see tinyurl.com/kvlwyo5 and tinyurl.com/ndhcbqx.) There's also the $50 JRiver MediaCenter (try it for free, see tinyurl.com/pqvwov8.)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Life & Style

AP

TV personality Donny Deutsch participates in the "donny!" panel at the NBCUniversal Summer TCA Tour at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Trump pal says GOP candidate may be on unexpected turf

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Donny Deutsch says pal Donald Trump may have failed to think through his presidential bid but likely enjoys stirring up the race.

Deustch, a former CNBC host who appeared with Trump on "The Apprentice," was asked at a TV critics' meeting Wednesday what he would say to the billionaire GOP candidate. Deutsch was promoting his new USA channel comedy.

"I would say, 'Dude, do you really know what you've gotten yourself into?' I don't know that he's really thought it through," Deutsch said.

That said, Trump will be a factor in the race, said Deutsch, who described him as a friend.

"At the very least, he's gonna be a kingmaker," he said. If Trump runs in the general election as an independent candidate, he will hand the race to the Democrats, Deutsch suggested.

"He's going to be a very big factor, and he loves it," he said, adding, "I know Donald well enough to know he's just having fun." Things could get even more interesting if people "poke" at Trump, Deutsch said, citing Trump's post-Fox News Channel debate clash with Fox moderator Megyn Kelly.

Deutsch, who hosted CNBC's "The Big Idea with Donny Deutsch," is taking on the role of sitcom actor in USA's "donny!," which the channel describes as a "soft-scripted" comedy that satirizes modern life and the media. It debuts Nov. 10.

While other actors in the show follow the script, Deutsch has the freedom to improvise as he plays a fictional version of himself, a wealthy New Yorker who's charming but arrogant.

"He wants to take over the talk show world. He wants to be the guy people are talking about," executive producer Angie Day said of his character.

"I'm more of an idiotic version of myself," but one with the kind of affluence that he's lucky enough to enjoy in real life, Deutsch said. Guest stars will include Christie Brinkley, Regis Philbin and the Rev. Al Sharpton.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Ryan Seacrest to host NBC's late-night coverage at Olympics

NEW YORK (AP)—Ryan Seacrest will host NBC's late-night coverage during the 2016 Olympics. The network said Wednesday that the "American Idol" host would take over the late-night role in Rio. He was a correspondent for NBC during the 2012 London Games. Bob Costas handled both late-night and prime-time hosting duties during last year's Winter Olympics, made possible by the time difference in Sochi. Mary Carillo had hosted the late-night coverage the previous three Olympics. Along with hosting "American Idol" on Fox, Seacrest is host and executive producer of ABC's "Dick Clark's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest" and has an agreement with NBCUniversal that includes serving as host and producer of the "E! Live from the Red Carpet" awards programs.

Spielberg's 'Bridge of Spies' to debut at NY Film Festival

NEW YORK (AP)—Steven Spielberg's Cold War thriller with Tom Hanks, "Bridge of Spies," will premiere at the 53rd New York Film Festival. The Film Society of Lincoln Center announced its slate for this year's festival on Wednesday. "Bridge of Spies" adds to a lineup that already features the premieres of several anticipated fall movies: Robert Zemeckis' "The Walk," Danny Boyle's "Steve Jobs" and Don Cheadle's "Miles Ahead." The 17-day festival, which kicks off Sept. 25, will also include the debut of Laura Israel's documentary of photographer Robert Frank, "Don't Blink: Robert Frank." The rest of the selection features films making earlier festival stops, including Michael Moore's "Where to Invade Next," Todd Haynes' `50s lesbian drama "Carol," Rebecca Miller's romantic comedy "Maggie's Plan" and Michel Gondry's comedy "

Syfy developing drama series based on 'Gateway' novel

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—The Syfy channel is developing a drama series based on Frederik Pohl's novel "Gateway." In "Gateway," the discovery of an asteroid containing an alien race's abandoned spaceship prompts a gold rush for the advanced technology, Syfy said Wednesday. The hour-long series will be produced by David Eick ("Battlestar Galactica") and Josh Pate ("Falling Skies"), the channel told a TV critics' meeting. "Gateway" raises "profound questions about mankind's possible relationship with alien life," Syfy executive Bill McGoldrick said in a statement. Pohl's 1977 award-winning novel about the alien Heechee race was followed by sequels and was the basis of a video game. The show's debut date and cast were not announced.

Canine actor Uggie, known for role in 'The Artist,' dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Uggie, the Jack Russell terrier who became a canine star for his scene-stealing role in the Oscar-winning movie "The Artist," has died.

Uggie was euthanized Friday after a bout with prostate cancer, his owner, Los Angeles animal trainer Omar Von Muller, said Wednesday. The dog was 13.

"He was a real friend. He was very special," said Von Muller, who plans to bury the dog in his backyard.

In "The Artist," Uggie played the canine companion to Jean Dujardin's fading silent-film star. The movie won Academy Awards for Best Picture, lead actor and director in 2011.

Uggie shared scenes in the film with his brother Dash and another Jack Russell named Dude. Uggie's other credits included the movies "Water for Elephants" and "Mr. Fix It."

AP

In this Jan. 10, 2012 file photo, Uggie the dog, who starred in the film "The Artist," attends a special screening of the film in London.

He retired in 2012 in a ceremony at the famous Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, where he became the first dog to leave his paw prints in concrete alongside the prints of human stars.

Uggie was a rescue dog, a cause that his owner championed.

"The main message that Uggie would like to send to everybody out there is to please adopt," Von Muller said at the paw-print ceremony. "He's adopted. He made it. If you guys can adopt a dog, even if they don't make it on the big screen, they'll be big stars at your house."

Von Muller made it a point to keep Uggie in shape and feeling young with exercise, including using a dog treadmill.

"If they don't get their exercise, they get old too fast, just like people," the trainer said in an interview three years ago.

Von Muller announced Uggie's death in Facebook post, saying, "Our beloved boy has passed away."

AP

In this May 12, 2014 file photo, actor Terrence Howard attends the FOX Network 2014 Upfront event in New York.

Terrence Howard due to return to court for divorce hearing

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Empire" star Terrence Howard is scheduled to return to a Los Angeles courtroom Thursday for the continuation of a hearing to try to undo a settlement in his most-recent divorce.

Howard claims ex-wife Michelle Ghent extorted him to sign a 2012 agreement that gave her to spousal support and other financial benefits. The Oscar-nominated actor claims Ghent threatened to leak personal information, including images of him naked and a sex tape, if he didn't meet her terms.

Ghent's lawyers say she denied blackmailing her husband during a deposition.

Howard, who currently stars on Fox's hit series "Empire," is expected to testify at some point during the hearing.

Audio of Ghent berating Howard and threatening to sell a video of him dancing naked in the bathroom was played for a judge on Tuesday.

Ex-friend takes woman's place at holiday dinners

DEAR ABBY: I had a close friend from middle school into adulthood. (I'll call her Lacey.) We were each other's maids of honor and best friends for years. A few years ago we had a falling out. She was going through a tough time and lashed out at me. When I tried to have a conversation with her to tell her I didn't like how she was treating me, she told me to "have a nice life."

Shortly after that, my youngest sister struck up a friendship with her and insisted that my parents invite her for Thanksgiving dinner. I told my mother I wasn't comfortable with Lacey joining our family dinner, but Mother said it would be rude to not invite her.

I no longer join my family for holiday dinners. Is it wrong of me to not want my family to be so friendly with someone who was unkind to me? It seems odd to me that my former friend would pursue relationships with my sisters and parents, and odder still that my parents and sisters would encourage it. Is there a positive and constructive way to address this situation?

DISCOUNTED AND EXCLUDED IN NEVADA

DEAR DISCOUNTED: It seems odd to me, too, that your parents would continue including Lacey at holiday dinners knowing how uncomfortable it would make you. Of course, you can't dictate whom your sister(s) can be friendly with, but you should explain to your parents how her inclusion has made you feel, so they'll understand why you are absent.

When Lacey advised you to "have a nice life," I hope you took her up on it and have made other friends. I also hope you don't sit around alone when the holidays roll around. Sometimes the most rewarding and loving experiences and relationships we have are with the "families" we build for ourselves.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I was taught that punctuality is important. My husband and I are almost always at least a few minutes early for everything we do. I realize not everyone can be—or wants to be—early. However, it seems that almost everyone we know is late. Sometimes it's five minutes, others it's 20 to 30 minutes. And it's not just people we know. I was kept waiting for 25 minutes by someone who was buying an item from me.

Why do people think this is OK? I was taught that it's rude to keep someone waiting for you. What are your thoughts on punctuality?

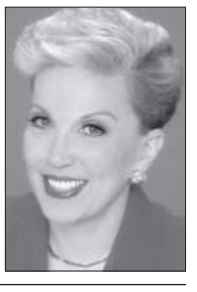
P.S. I'm not talking about running late once in a while. I'm talking about people who are consistently late everywhere they go.

AMBER IN THE SOUTH

DEAR AMBER: I was raised the same way you were. My parents impressed upon me that it is disrespectful to keep people waiting, and that if a delay is unavoidable, the person who's expecting me should be informed that I will be late. I'm not implying that someone must make an appearance at the stroke of the hour—a delay of 10 or 15 minutes is understandable. But to keep someone waiting longer than that is rude, disrespectful and bad manners.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



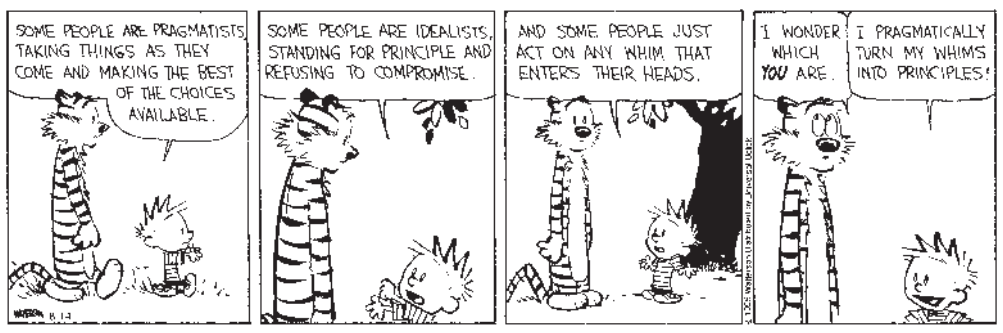
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

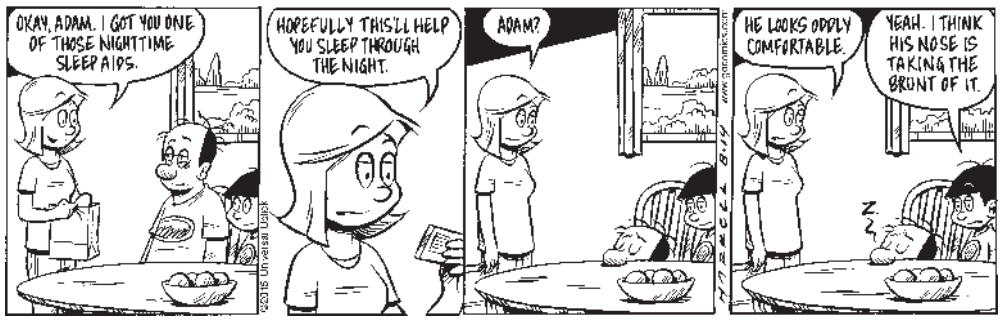

SOME PEOPLE ARE PRAGMATISTS, TAKING THINGS AS THEY COME AND MAKING THE BEST OF THE CHOICES AVAILABLE.
SOME PEOPLE ARE IDEALISTS, STANDING FOR PRINCIPLE AND REFUSING TO COMPROMISE.
AND SOME PEOPLE JUST ACT ON ANY WHIM THAT ENTERS THEIR HEADS.
I WONDER WHICH YOU ARE.
I PRAGMATICALLY TURN MY WHIMS INTO PRINCIPLES!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY, ADAM. I GOT YOU ONE OF THOSE NIGHTTIME SLEEP AIDS.
HOPEFULLY THIS'LL HELP YOU SLEEP THROUGH THE NIGHT.
ADAM?
HE LOOKS ODDLY COMFORTABLE.
YEAH. I THINK HIS NOSE IS TAKING THE BRUNT OF IT.
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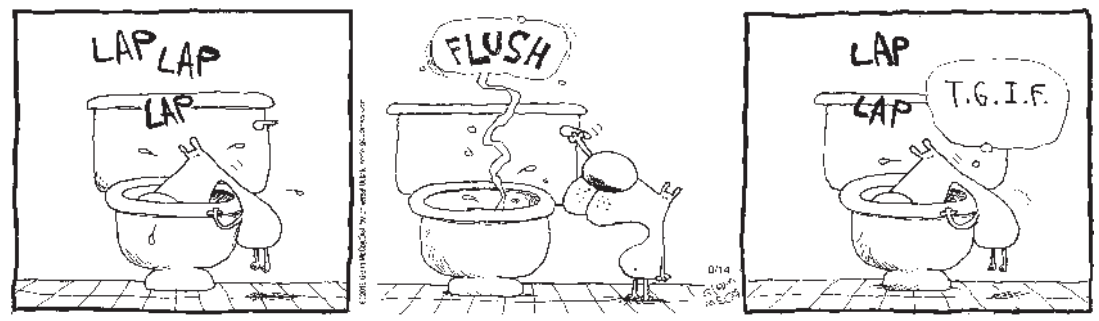
www.gocomics.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

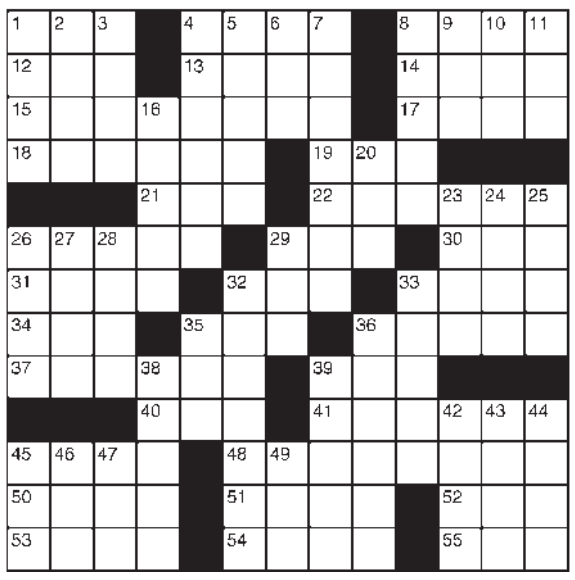
ACROSS
1 Explanation request
4 Incite
8 Spring occurrence
12 Latin 101 word
13 Tom Joad type
14 Franc replacement
15 Indoor sport
17 Marvel Comics mutants
18 In a showy manner
19 Afternoon social
21 "— Miserables"
22 GM security system
26 Refine metal
29 Auction action
30 Shock partner
31 Viscous
32 Accomplished
33 — gin fizz
34 Section of Switzerland
35 Pair
36 Ledge
37 First first lady
39 Broadcast
40 "— the ramparts ..."
41 Baffles
45 Acknowledge
48 Grid game
50 Bear lair
51 Coastal flier
52 Zodiac feline
53 List-ending abbr.
54 Antelope's playmate
55 Corrode

DOWN
1 That's a laugh
2 Sharif or Khayyam
3 Refuses to
4 Wine glass
5 Approves
6 Have a bug
7 Shoulder muscle
8 Michener title
9 Drone
10 Exist
11 Triumphed
16 Humdinger
20 Tackle's teammate
23 Story
24 MPs' quarry
25 Coral structure
26 Rundown part of town
27 Actress Sorvino
28 Eastern potentate
29 Story of a lifetime?
32 Was much bigger than
33 Part of a hedge
35 Commonest English word
36 Grandma, often
38 Beach blanket
39 Unanimously
42 Guy
43 Entreaty
44 Coin aperture
45 Expert
46 Cistern
47 Eggs
49 Raw rock

Solution time: 25 mins.

F	R	A	U	■	B	J	O	Y	■	N	E	H
E	A	R	N	■	C	R	E	O	■	■	R	A
S	P	■	C	E	G	I	R	L	■	C	U	T
S	T	A	L	L	S	■	■	K	N	E	E	S
■	■	■	A	M	■	P	O	S	E	S	■	■
C	A	R	D	■	C	R	B	■	W	H	O	A
O	B	■	■	■	T	O	E	■	■	O	H	M
P	A	C	E	■	I	V	Y	■	S	E	O	P
■	■	■	E	R	A	S	E	■	I	T	■	■
D	A	W	N	S	■	■	■	A	K	I	M	B	O
A	L	L	■	T	W	I	C	E	T	O	L	D
R	O	N	■	R	I	C	H	■	C	R	U	D
T	E	E	■	O	G	E	E	■	E	R	S	■

Yesterday's answer 8-14



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tim Tebow, 28; Mila Kunis, 32; Halle Berry, 49; Steve Martin, 70.

Happy Birthday: Let your imagination lead the way. You'll have plenty of ideas to develop. Love and romance will keep you occupied, and setting relationship priorities and family plans in motion will bring you closer to a harmonious and stable personal lifestyle. Greater opportunity to secure professional advancement and improve your current standard of living is within reach. Your numbers are 3, 11, 15, 23, 35, 38, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Stay busy, take care of odd jobs and tie up loose ends. You'll have what it takes to make a move in a direction that suits you financially and professionally. Romance and celebration will brighten your day. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Stay balanced regardless of what highs and lows come your way. Don't overindulge or push yourself past a point that could lead to exhaustion. Use your head and think matters through. A business trip will result in an unexpected opportunity. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Change things up a bit at home. You'll enjoy your environment more if you improve your entertainment center or incorporate a unique and interesting philosophy into the way you run your home or personal life. Make love a priority. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): A short trip will open your eyes to new possibilities. Discuss your concerns with someone you live with or are close to. You can improve a situation you face if you look for innovative answers to existing problems. Changes will lead to benefits. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Emotions will flare up when dealing with people at work or at home. Someone will put demands on you if you brag or are too generous with your time, cash or skills. Do what benefits you most. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Sort through facts and consider the consequences before speaking out. Someone will give you the wrong impression if you aren't swift to head off a misunderstanding. Ask questions if you have doubts. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Social networking or industry events will help bring you closer to someone you'd like to collaborate with. Romance is in the stars, and if you mix business with pleasure, you will impress someone you love as well as those you work with. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't let the changes that colleagues make limit what you can do or the direction you want to take. Focus on expanding your skills to better fit the changing economic trends. Let your intelligence and insight lead the way. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You will face opposition if you aren't factual and precise in presenting what you want to pursue. Change can be good, but it has to be done properly and within the boundaries set by those in authority. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Avoid people who are inclined to complain and hold you back. Don't give in to the demands being made or the expectations someone has. Set your sights on what is doable, and you will find a way to protect your position and satisfy your needs. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take a closer look at your current situation and you'll find a way to enhance and protect what you have worked so hard to develop. Your relationship with someone special can be enhanced with a little tender loving care. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't evade issues in order to get your way. It's best to be honest about what you are going to do. Avoid letting someone get in your way at an inconvenient time. Clear the air and keep moving forward. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are competitive, intense and demanding. You are persistent and original.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		4				3		
		5		6		2		
3	2						1	9
			3		4			
	5			1			3	
			7		9			
7	6						2	1
		3		4		9		
		8				7		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	7	1	5	6	8	4	3	2
6	2	4	3	1	7	9	8	5
3	5	8	2	9	4	6	1	7
7	3	6	1	2	5	8	4	9
5	4	9	8	3	6	2	7	1
8	1	2	7	4	9	5	6	3
4	6	7	9	5	3	1	2	8
2	9	3	4	8	1	7	5	6
1	8	5	6	7	2	3	9	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/12

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

COMMUNITY FAIRS Solution: 10 letters

S	N	T	P	S	E	Z	I	R	P	O	N	Y	T	T
N	R	R	E	S	T	F	A	R	C	A	A	G	E	S
A	O	E	T	M	L	C	L	F	A	I	R	K	N	E
I	C	C	T	U	E	I	O	A	R	C	C	K	T	D
C	P	N	I	S	A	T	D	N	G	I	B	N	S	I
I	O	O	N	I	I	D	N	E	T	U	E	R	C	R
G	P	C	G	C	C	W	A	I	S	E	O	S	I	Y
A	S	T	Z	L	O	R	T	K	A	B	S	N	R	Y
M	Ⓢ	Ⓗ	Ⓞ	Ⓦ	T	R	E	N	H	P	E	T	C	L
T	S	W	O	S	Y	R	N	G	O	V	E	O	U	I
E	N	P	D	P	S	A	I	D	U	O	U	C	S	M
E	D	A	R	A	P	E	W	O	O	N	L	A	A	A
R	P	N	P	I	N	I	S	D	T	G	L	L	A	F
T	M	R	A	F	N	C	N	Y	I	S	U	G	A	R
S	E	K	A	B	L	G	E	G	A	M	E	S	E	B

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Ages, Arts, Bake, Balloon Twisters, Band, Buskers, Circus, Clown, Concert, Contest, Corn Dog, County, Crafts, Dance, Face Paint, Fair, Fall, Family, Farm, Flag, Fries, Games, Magicians, Midway, Music, Neighbors, Parade, Park, Petting Zoo, Pony, Popcorn, Prizes, Races, Rides, Shopping, Show, Slides, Souvenir, Spring, Street, Sugar, Tent, Ticket, Tosses

Yesterday's Answer: Lip Gloss

The **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2** is here! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Ideally with an Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing plus experience in F&B, menu preparation & costing. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese or Korean an advantage. Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants may submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by August 14, 2015. Applications may also be sent to:info@dqsaipan.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association
Is looking for a
HEAD COACH
January to December 2016

Location: Saipan, CNMI.

Duties and Responsibilities:
- Introduce and demonstrate up to date training methods and playing techniques to players and then plan, organize, and conduct training and practice sessions.
- Scout and observe players from all levels to evaluate players' strengths and weaknesses, to recommend the level at which players can train or players, and to identify and recruit potential athletes..
- Plan and direct physical conditioning programs that will enable athletes to achieve maximum performance.
- Coach, train and prepare national team players for international competitions
- Provide training direction and develop methods to encourage and motivate players for games and competitions.
- Adjust coaching techniques, based on the strengths and weaknesses of athletes.
- Instruct individuals or groups in sports rules, game strategies, and performance principles.
- Keep records of athletes, teams and opposing teams' performance and analyze the strength and weaknesses of opposing teams to develop game strategies.
- Take the lead for developing a multi-year strategic plan for the NMIFA.

Minimum Qualification:
- Bachelor's degree in Sports Science, Physical Education or related major plus 5 years minimum experience in the job offered. Resume must reflect the experience required and references will be verified.
- Applicant must be a Class A-Licensed Coach in soccer.
- Must have extensive experience in soccer sports development including development programs of youth, men and women national players.
- Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.
- Must have international coaching experience at the national level.
- Can communicate effectively in English and understanding and speaking other Asian languages is a plus.
- Familiarity with EAFF and AFC run programs and competitions will be highly considered.

Salary will be based on qualification. Please send resume and other documents showing all requirements to the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association - 3rd Floor, TSL Plaza, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan or PMB 338, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 or Fax no. 1-670-233-6632 or email to rzapanta@nmifa.com. To be considered, resume must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm, Wednesday, August 26, 2015.

AIC Marianas, Inc.
PMB 564, PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 670-234-2440
Email: saipan@aicconstruction.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: **Architectural Drafter**
Salary Offered: $ 14.13/hour
Job Description: Operates computer-aided drafting (CAD) equipment or conventional drafting station to produce designs, working drawings, charts, forms and records; Analyzes building codes, by-laws, space and site requirements, and other technical documents and reports to determine their effect on architectural designs; Coordinates structural, electrical and mechanical designs and determine a method of presentation to graphically represent building plans; Draws rough and detailed scale plans for foundations, buildings and structures, based on preliminary concepts, sketches, engineering calculations, specification sheets and other data; Lays out and plan interior room arrangements for commercial buildings using computer-assisted drafting (CAD) equipment and software; Responsible for preparation of various construction plans and details (AutoCAD), construction daily reports, progress schedule and enforcement of safety plans; supervises actual construction of various projects, oversee of sub-contractor trades and crews, including quality control.

Minimum Qualifications: With a college degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture. With at least 7 years of work experience as an Architectural Drafters or Architect in a company that specializes in the construction of commercial and institutional buildings, roads, and related structures.

Place of Employment: Successful candidate will be assigned to work in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and in the U.S. Territory of Guam.

How to Apply: Submit a professional resume to:

AIC MARIANAS, INC.
Office Address: Airport Road, Koblerville, Saipan, CNMI
Phone: 670-234-2440
Email: saipan@aicconstruction.com

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), AIC MARIANAS, INC. will make reasonable accommodations during any and all phases of the selection process for individuals with a disability. Please call (670) 234-2440 to request accommodations. AIC MARIANAS, INC. is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or disability.

AIC Marianas, Inc.
PMB 564, PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 670-234-2440
Email: saipan@aicconstruction.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: **Accountant/Auditor**
Salary Offered: $ 14.13/hour
Job Description: Prepares, examines, or analyzes accounting records, financial statements, or other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness, and conformance to reporting and procedural standards; Reports to management regarding the finances of establishment; Develops, implements, modifies, and documents recordkeeping and accounting systems; Computes taxes owed and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment, reporting or other tax requirements; Oversees day-to-day activities of office, accounting, shop, as well as field workers; Reviews contracts, project billing, and change orders prepared by other staff and counter check figures prior to finalizing and submission to contract owner; Prepares and generates end of month reports, maintains record keeping and prepares accounts for management information; Prepares annual tax reconciliation, budget, and attend to audit.

Minimum Qualifications: With a college degree of Bachelor of Science in Commerce or Business Administration or any related field of study. With at least 7 years of relevant work experience as an Accountant or Auditor preferably in a company that specializes in the construction of commercial and institutional buildings, roads, and related structures.

Place of Employment: Successful candidate will be assigned to work in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and in the U.S. Territory of Guam.

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G4S
Job Vacancy Announcement
(40) Security Officer

Submit applications, police clearance, and copy of certification at G4S Office located at Beach Road Ladera Building, Chalan Lau-lau.
For more information call (670) 233-3238/39 or email at cnmi@gu.g4s.com
www.g4s.mp

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY: G4S is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer and observes all federal employment opportunity regulations, practices and policies. Federal Law requires presentation of proof of identity and eligibility to work in the United States. We comply with this law on a nondiscriminatory basis. Must be 18 years or older and must be able to speak, read and write English. Open to all qualified U.S. Workers without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex citizenship and is in compliance with Title II of the Genetics Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA). This job is open to all U.S. Veterans, Persons with Disabilities and Women In Non-traditional occupations that are qualified, willing, able and available to perform the job.

G4S
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) IT Administrator

Submit applications, police clearance, and copy of certification at G4S Office located at Beach Road Ladera Building, Chalan Lau-lau.
For more information call (670) 233-3238/39 or email at cnmi@gu.g4s.com
www.g4s.mp

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY: G4S is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer and observes all federal employment opportunity regulations, practices and policies. Federal Law requires presentation of proof of identity and eligibility to work in the United States. We comply with this law on a nondiscriminatory basis. Must be 18 years or older and must be able to speak, read and write English. Open to all qualified U.S. Workers without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex citizenship and is in compliance with Title II of the Genetics Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA). This job is open to all U.S. Veterans, Persons with Disabilities and Women In Non-traditional occupations that are qualified, willing, able and available to perform the job.

WHATZIT Solution: Money down the drain

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

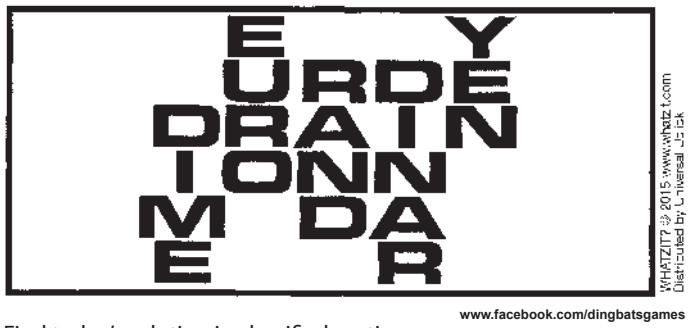
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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Find today's solution in classified section

Mariana Acquisition Corporation
dba IP&E Saipan

IP&E Saipan is accepting applications for the following position:

Dispatcher

This is a regular full-time position responsible for coordinating and scheduling the delivery of petroleum products from terminal to commercial and retail receiving locations; monitoring driver locations and delivery confirmations. A qualified candidate will have at least two years' experience as a dispatcher preferably in petroleum operations; excellent safety record; understand local roadways and hazards; able to work flexible hours; possesses good communication and interpersonal skills; and must be proficient using Microsoft Excel.

To apply, please pick up an Employment Application at the IP&E Saipan office, located at the Puerto Rico Terminal Office on Industrial Drive, and submit no later than August 17, 2015 at 5pm.

Mariana Acquisition Corporation |IP&E Saipan
PMB 1009 | P.O. Box 10000
Saipan, MP 96950 | Tel: 670-323-5009
Fax: 670-322-0764 | Email: corporate@ipehq.com

Shell Licensee

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting individuals to apply for the following position:

Legal Secretary
Duties & Responsibilities:
Works primarily with attorneys in setting up case files, keep case files current, and file pleadings with both Superior Court and U.S. District Court of the N.M.I. Accurately calendars court hearings and trials, monitor deadlines and track cases through the justice system; draft and proof read correspondences, photocopy, fax, print, use telephone techniques, e-mail use, and file.

Job Requirements:
Knowledge: Of law office practice (preferably litigation), familiarity with Superior Court and District Court procedures and legal terminology.

Equipment Skills: Use various office equipment including telephone, fax machine, copier, printer, computer, and occasionally a manual typewriter.

Software Skills: Proficient with word processing (preferably Microsoft Office Word) and Microsoft Outlook. Knowledge of Excel is beneficial.

Ability: To type at least 40 wpm (no errors); multi-task; be well organized; maintain a professional disposition; focus and concentrate in a stressful environment with heavy workloads and strict timelines; work independently and self-directed; maintain strict confidentiality; communicate effectively orally and in writing; follow verbal and written instructions; possess good interpersonal skills and establish effective working relationships with law enforcement, fellow employees, supervisors and the public; use proper sentence structure, punctuation, grammar and spelling; proof reading; accuracy; and attention to detail.

Required Qualifications:
To be considered for the position, applicants must have a high school diploma (or GED) and four (4) years secretarial or clerical experience with demonstrated competency in records management, word processing, and other routing office tasks requiring application of working level computer skills. Applicants with an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, August 21, 2015.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

J.C. Tenorio Enterprises Inc.
is currently seeking for
(2) COOK
(1) COOK HELPER
Interested applicants may pick up an application at the second floor of the Joeten Susupe Shopping Center.
J.C. Tenorio Enterprises Inc. is an equal opportunity employer

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Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the position:

Air conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic
Associate's Degree or Vocational School graduate. Must have at least 2 years experience installing, servicing, and repairing air conditioning and refrigerating systems in residences and commercial establishments. Must have his/her own reliable transportation and must be able to work flexible hours.

A pre-employment drug testing is required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, August 17, 2015.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCMENT
Mariana Entertainment LLC
For immediate hiring

SLOT ATTENDANT
- Responsible to proactively seek interaction with slot customer for purpose of building positive business relationships.
- Trouble shoot and assist guest with their slot machines issues and perform minor gaming machine malfunctions
- Reporting any machine operational or technical issues to appropriate technical support personal.
- Ability to accurately explain various game combinations payouts and jackpots

QUALIFICATIONS:
High School Diploma or equivalent, with 12 months to 24 months of previous successful work-related experience with Guest Services in a casino, electronic gaming or lounge, or any combination of experience, education or training where guest service is demonstrated. Must be able to work various shifts, including evenings, weekends and holidays. Able to communicate good command of verbal and written English, second language preferred as Chinese, Korean or Japanese.

SLOT CASHIER
- Must provide friendly, efficient and courteous service to all internal and external customers. Process all slot cashier transaction on a shift basis actually and efficiently.
- Must be able to perform slot cashier operations, including payment of TITO tickets and providing cashier services to players. Familiar with handling cash and foreign currency.
- Must perform various financial and accounting operations in support of Slot operations and financial reporting.

QUALIFICATIONS:
High School Diploma or equivalent, with good communication skills. Minimum of 1 year experience in handling money. Demonstrate knowledge of BSA Title 31 Chapter X or the ability to pass exam after training. Must be fluent in English, second language preferable. Must be able to work in various shifts including nights, weekends and holidays. Able to stand for long period of time. MUST BE ABLE TO SECURE A CNMI GAMING LICENSE.

Please email your resume to gusnoble@hotmail.com or call 670-484-6050
Only U.S. Qualified applicants need apply.

JOB VANCANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – LPG EQUIPMENT/TANKER MECHANIC
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
- Applicant must have a minimum of 5 preferably more years experience specifically dealing with LPG with demonstrable experience in the administering of LPG equipment installations and their subsequent maintenance.
- Repairing and maintaining of LPG Tanker Trucks, LPG pumps and metering system.
- must have experience with dangerous good regulations and familiarization in hazard class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard Materials and Dagerous Goods).
- must have the knowledge in safety practices and hazmat security procedures.
- Safety training to Hazardous Material transportation is required.
- Commercial Driver's Health Certificate is required.
- Excellent communication skills both verbal and written especially when it come to inventory and reporting.
- Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle.

1 – LPG TANK TRUCK DRIVER
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
- Must have 5 years experience as LPG Tank Truck Driver
- Knowledge to load and/or unload LPG at filling rack and read gauges or meters.
- Must know to operate LPG Truck (MC-331) in accordance to established safety procedures.
- Must be a trained Hazmat Tank truck driver
- Safety training certificate is required in Hazardous Material Transportation and have knowledge in Hazard Class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard Materials/Dangerous Goods).
- Commercial Drivers Health Certificate is required
- Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle.

1 – LPG MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
- Must have 5 years experience in the relevant field
- Ability to perform LPG equipment installation.
- Monitor the loading and/or unloading of LPG from isotainer to LPG storage tank with safety procedures.
- Training certificate is required in Hazardous Material Transportation
- Familiarization in Hazard Class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard Materials/Dangerous Goods)
- Commercial Drivers Health Certificate is required
- Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle.

1 – BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTANT
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
- Applicant must have 5 years work related experience in accounting.
- Must have knowledge in LPG Petroleum business activities.
- Must have a good communication and multitasking skills, organizational, self-motivation, responsibility, and able to manage deadlines.
- Must have knowledge in Peachtree software, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Word operations.

Mail your complete application or resume' to:
Wushin Corporation, PO Box 500440, Saipan, MP 96950
Closing date: August 19, 2015

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Tour Coordinator. Can Speak Korean,English Under Blue Star Corp. Contact Name: Cho Sung Taek Contact Number: 483-1259.

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(1) Administrative Officer – Must have 3-5 years' experience as administrative officer plus 3-4 years' experience as administrative assistant. Must have background in accounting, computer literate especially accounting software such as Peachtree Accounting, Microsoft Excel and Word. Must know how to read and review reports and financial statements. Must know how to prepare CW-1 applications, taxes, licenses and permit applications. Must have reliable transportation and valid driver's license. Applicants must mail resume with valid identification, police clearance and previous employment certification to M & E Enterprises Inc. Saipan, P.O. Box 505208 CK, Saipan, MP 96950. No phone calls please.

SERVICES

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DREAM PLAN ACTION CORPORATION
Has a job opening for
(1) SALES MANAGER
- Minimum of 2 years experience in car dealership area
- Willing to work during holidays
- Salary will commensurate with knowledge and experience.

Interested applicant may personally submit their resume at San Antonio or email @ dpacarmart.sales@gmail.com

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JOB VANCANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – DIESEL TANK TRUCK DRIVER
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
- Knowledge to operate a Commercial Motor Vehicle that transporting hazardous material (petroleum diesel).
- Knowledge to load/unload petroleum diesel at filling rack
- Knowledge to read tank truck gauges or meters
- Must know to transport hazardous materials (petroleum diesel) and must know how to respond in case of spillage and emergency.
- Safety training is required to Hazardous material transportation
- Familiarization in hazard class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard Masterials/Dangerous Goods)
- Must be a certified Hazmat Tank truck driver
- Must have not less than 5 years experience as a Hazmat Tank Truck Driver
- Commercial Driver's Health Certificate is required.
- Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle.

1 – BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTANT
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
- Bachelors degree in Accounting with 5 years work related experience in financial transactions.
- Familiar with Petroleum business activities
- Must have a good communication and multitasking skills, organizational, self-motivation, responsibility, and able to manage deadlines
- Knowledge in Peachtree software, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Word operations

Mail complete application or resume to:
D & W Enterprises, Inc.
P.O. Box 500440, Saipan, MP 96950.
Deadline: August 19, 2015

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?

You're looking at it!

Saipan Tribune
235-6397

Iwakuma tosses no-hitter in Seattle's win over Orioles

AP
Seattle Mariners starting pitcher Hisashi Iwakuma is hugged by first baseman Logan Morrison, right, after the final out of Iwakuma's no-hitter against the Baltimore Orioles in a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, in Seattle.

SEATTLE (AP)—Hisashi Iwakuma has become the second Japanese-born pitcher in major league history to throw a no-hitter, leading the Seattle Mariners to a 3-0 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Wednesday.

Iwakuma struck out seven and walked three in throwing the first no-hitter by an American League pitcher in nearly three years. He joins Hideo Nomo, who threw two no-nos, as the only Japanese-born pitchers to accomplish the feat.

Iwakuma is the fourth pitcher to throw a no-hitter this season, joining Philadelphia's Cole Hamels—prior to his trade to Texas—Washington's Max Scherzer and San Francisco's Chris Heston.

Iwakuma is the first American League pitcher to throw a no-hitter since teammate Felix Hernandez tossed a perfect game against the Tampa Bay Rays on Aug. 15, 2012. Baltimore starter Kevin Gausman (2-4) took the loss.

Dodgers 3, Nationals 0

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw tied Sandy Koufax's franchise record of six straight 200-strikeout seasons while tossing eight scoreless innings, and NL West-leading Los Angeles defeated Washington.

Kershaw (10-6) took a perfect game bid into the sixth inning, when Michael Taylor doubled to deep center field. Kershaw retired the next two batters on grounders to end the inning.

The 27-year-old left-hander struck out the side in the second to equal the mark set by Koufax from 1961-66. Koufax and Tom Seaver (1968-76) are the only pitchers in modern NL history to accomplish the feat in six or more consecutive seasons.

Kenley Jansen retired the side in the ninth to earn his 22nd save in 23 chances.

Jordan Zimmermann (8-8) nearly matched Kershaw, giving up two hits and one run in seven innings. He struck out a season-high nine, including Adrian Gonzalez three times, and walked one.

Blue Jays 10, Athletics 3

In Toronto, Toronto surged to the top of the AL East with its 10th straight win, beating Oakland behind a pair of three-run homers from Chris Colabello and Justin Smoak.

The Blue Jays trailed the Yankees by six games on July 31. But after making several bold trades, they have gone on a streak that included a sweep of New York, losing only once since Troy Tulowitzki joined the team to move a half-game up in the division.

Josh Donaldson had two hits and two RBIs, boosting his major league-leading total to 85.

R.A. Dickey (7-10) won his won his fourth straight decision, allowing three runs and six hits in six innings.

Right-hander Aaron Brooks (1-1) was hit hard by the Blue Jays for the second time in his career.

Indians 2, Yankees 1

In Cleveland, Danny Salazar pitched neatly into the eighth inning, and Cleveland dropped New York out of first place in the AL East.

The Yankees, who have lost five straight, trail surging Toronto by a half-game in the division and fell out of the top spot for the first time since July 2. New York has scored six runs in its losing streak.

Abraham Almonte's RBI single broke a 1-all tie in the sixth and Cleveland won its fourth straight.

Salazar (10-6) was pulled after issuing one-out walks to Brett Gardner and Chase Headley in the eighth, but Cody Allen got Alex Rodriguez to hit into a double play to end the inning. Salazar gave up one run in 7 1/3 innings.

Mets 3, Rockies 0

In New York, Jacob deGrom conceded only two hits and struck out 10 in seven innings, pitching New York past Colorado.

Yoenis Cespedes hit his first home run for the surging Mets, who have won 10 of 12. Juan Uribe stroked an RBI double in the fourth and Michael Cuddyer followed with a run-scoring single on a night when both players reached 1,500 career hits.

Surprise leaders in the NL East, the Mets (62-52) matched their season high at 10 games over .500. They handed Colorado its ninth defeat in a row at Citi Field since 2013 — after the Rockies won eight straight at the ballpark the previous two years.

New York improved to 41-18 at home, surpassing its 2014 win total (40) in the cozy stadium.

Cardinals 4, Pirates 2

In St. Louis, Yadier Molina tripled in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning when right fielder Gregory Polanco missed an attempted shoe-top catch and Michael Wacha got his 14th win to tie for the major league high as St. Louis beat Pittsburgh.

The game didn't live up to the anticipated marquee pitching matchup between Wacha (14-4) and Gerrit Cole (14-6), both of whom were gone by the seventh inning. Seattle's Felix Hernandez also has 14 wins.

St. Louis gift-wrapped a run, too, when center fielder Randal Grichuk badly misplayed an attempted diving catch on Andrew McCutchen's RBI triple that tied it at 2 in the fifth. Grichuk landed early and bounced as the ball rolled past him to the wall.

Cubs 3, Brewers 2, 10 innings

In Chicago, Miguel Montero homered in the bottom of the 10th inning to give Chicago a victory over Milwaukee for the Cubs' sixth straight win and 12th in 13 games.

Montero, who allowed a couple wild pitches to get past him in the ninth as the Brewers rallied to tie the score, led off the 10th with a solo blast to left field off Michael Blazek (5-3).

Tommy Hunter (3-2) pitched a scoreless 10th to get the win.

Kris Bryant homered and Anthony Rizzo made a circus catch falling into the stands to lead the keep the Cubs surging.

Astros 2, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Colby Rasmus homered to lead off the seventh inning to help Scott Feldman earn his first win in more than two months, and Houston held on to beat San Francisco.

Jed Lowrie also homered for the Astros, who stumble back to Minute Maid Park with a slimmer AL West division lead after going 2-7 on their nine-game road trip.

Feldman (5-5) missed 45 games earlier this season with a torn meniscus and had been winless in four starts since coming off the disabled list in July. He combined with four relievers on the five-hit shutout.

The Astros right-hander—winless since May 26 gave up four hits over six innings, walked one and struck out four while allowing only one runner past second base.

White Sox 3, Angels 2, 13 innings

In Chicago, Avisail Garcia's line-drive double to the wall with one out in the 13th inning drove in Jose Abreu from first base and lifted Chicago to a win over Los Angeles to finish a three-game sweep.

Matt Albers (2-0), Chicago's sixth reliever, pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

Cesar Ramos (2-1), the Angels' sixth pitcher out the bullpen, gave up a single to Abreu and then Garcia's double to left-center as Los Angeles dropped its ninth straight on the road.

This one went to extra innings when Abreu botched a play at first in the ninth, allowing Angels pinch runner Taylor Featherston to race home from third and tie the game at 2 on Conor Gillaspie's grounder to first.

Tigers 7, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Mo., Ian Kinsler doubled home two runs and Detroit batted around in a four-run eighth inning to defeat Kansas City.

The loss snapped the Royals' eight-game home winning streak, their longest since winning their first 11 games in 2003 at Kauffman Stadium.

Royals right-hander Edinson Volquez (11-7) had retired 13 straight batters entering the eighth, which James McCann led off with a single. Volquez walked Anthony Gose, and Jose Iglesias had an infield single to load the bases with none out.

Kinsler doubled down the left field line to score McCann and Gose to finish Volquez's night. J.D. Martinez's single scored Iglesias. Kinsler scored on Collins' fielder's choice grounder as Detroit sent 10 to the plate in the inning.

Twins 11, Rangers 1

In Minneapolis, Aaron Hicks had four of Minnesota's 17 hits, Miguel Sano homered twice and Mike Pelfrey picked up his first win since June as the Twins routed Texas.

Sano's second home run drove in three in the fourth inning and reached the upper deck down the left field line. It gave the Twins a 7-0 lead.

Hicks got the Twins going with a leadoff homer in the first. He jumped on a 2-0 fastball from Nick Martinez (7-7) and drove it 432 feet off the facing of the upper deck in right-center for his seventh homer of the season.

Reds 7, Padres 3

In San Diego, rookie Raisel Iglesias pitched six strong innings and Joey Votto scored the go-ahead run on a balk by James Shields and later homered to lead Cincinnati to a victory against San Diego.

Iglesias (3-4) retired 16 straight from the end of the first inning through the sixth to help the Reds avoid a three-game sweep. He allowed three runs and six hits while striking out eight and walking one. He had lost four of his previous five decisions.

Votto hit a two-run homer—his 20th—off Frank Garces with one out in the ninth. Votto had three hits and drove in three runs.

Shields (8-5), who signed a $75 million, four-year contract as a free agent in February, has just one win in his last 13 starts.

Phillies 7, Diamondbacks 6

In Phoenix, Cameron Rupp homered and drove in a career-high four runs and Philadelphia avoided a series sweep with a win over Arizona.

Rupp capped a four-run sixth with a three-run shot off Arizona reliever Keith Hessler, who did not allow a batter to reach base in his two previous outings. Rupp's homer broke a 4-all tie.

Rupp drove in another run with a sacrifice fly. Cody Asche scored on Rupp's double-play grounder—not an RBI—in the fourth inning.

Phillies rookie Aaron Nola pitched five innings for the win. Nola (3-1) allowed four runs and nine hits for his third win in four starts.

Rays 9, Braves 6

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Curt Casali capped a six-run seventh inning with a two-run homer and Tampa Bay rallied for a victory over Atlanta.

Casali had just one hit in 26 at-bats since consecutive two-homer games against Detroit on July 27-28.

Tampa Bay has won four in a row, including three when trailing 3-0. The Rays also had comeback wins Saturday and Sunday over the New York Mets.

Pedro Ciriaco homered for the first time in more than two years and tied a career high with four RBIs for the Braves, who have lost 14 of 20.

The Rays scored five times off reliever Matt Marksberry (0-1) in the decisive seventh.

Alex Colome (5-4) got the win and Brad Boxberger picked up his 29th save.

Marlins 14, Red Sox 6

In Miami, rookie J.T. Realmuto drove in six runs, including five in a franchise record-tying 10-run sixth inning, which helped Miami complete a two-game sweep in a series between last-place teams by beating Boston.

Realmuto hit an RBI single in the sixth to put the Marlins ahead 5-4, and then hit his first career grand slam later in the inning to make the score 14-4.

He's the first Marlins player to drive in five runs in an inning.

David Ortiz drove in three with two homers for Boston.

Realmuto also drove in a run with his sixth triple, the most by a rookie catcher since Carlton Fisk of the Red Sox in 1972, according to STATS. Needing a double in the eighth to hit for the cycle, he struck out.

Rodriguez (6-5) allowed eight runs in five-plus innings. Rookie Kyle Barraclough (1-0) pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings for his first major-league victory.

Judge puts NFL on hot seat as he belittles 'Deflategate'

AP
New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady arrives at federal court, Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—A federal judge put the NFL on the defensive Wednesday over its four-game suspension of Tom Brady, demanding to know what evidence directly links the New England quarterback to deflated footballs and belittling the drama of the controversy.

"What is the direct evidence that implicates Mr. Brady?" Judge Richard M. Berman repeatedly asked NFL lawyer Daniel L. Nash at the first hearing in the civil case in Manhattan federal court as Brady and Commissioner Roger Goodell looked on.

Nash responded there was "considerable evidence Mr. Brady clearly knew about this," including records of text messages and phone calls between the quarterback and one of two Patriots employees implicated in the scandal known as "Deflategate."

But he also said there was no "smoking gun" showing Brady had direct knowledge that the balls were underinflated for the first half of the Patriots' 45-7 win over the Indianapolis Colts in the AFC championship game Jan. 18.

Brady and Goodell didn't speak during the hearing, except to introduce themselves to Berman. Brady, his head lowered, looked dour as lawyers spoke for about 1 hour, 20 minutes.

Immediately afterward, Brady smiled slightly as he signed sketches for two court artists. Berman then met individually with each side for more settlement discussions in private.

The talks continued more than four hours until about 5 p.m. Afterward, a smiling Brady left the courthouse. Several people shouted "cheater, cheater!"

Berman could be seen briefly speaking with Goodell inside the courthouse before the commissioner left to a waiting sports utility vehicle about 10 minutes after Brady. Goodell smiled as dozens of photo and video journalists did their work. Neither of them spoke and there was no immediate word on the status of talks.

Two weeks ago, the NFL asked Berman to declare that its punishment of Brady was properly carried out. The players' union countersued, asking him to nullify the suspension. The judge has signaled from the start that he wants the parties to reach a swift settlement.

On Wednesday, Berman called it "ironic or not" that Brady's statistics were better in the second half of the AFC championship game, after the balls were re-inflated.

"You might say (Brady) got no better advantage from the under-inflation," the judge said.

At one point, the judge also seemed to try to defuse the controversy, saying: "This Deflategate. I'm not sure where the `gate' comes from."

When the union got its chance to argue, the judge asked attorney Jeffrey L. Kessler why one of the Patriots employees would deflate balls without Brady's knowledge. Kessler said the union does not believe the balls were deflated but, if they were, the employee did it on his own because he "thought it would be good for his quarterback."

The judge also questioned why Brady destroyed his cellphone in the midst of the inquiry—a move that the league argues was further proof of his deception. Kessler claimed that the quarterback got rid of the phone on the advice of his agent to protect his privacy but had otherwise cooperated with the inquiry.

However, in hindsight, "You're right, it could have been done a different way," the lawyer said of the phone.

Both sides are scheduled to return to court next week.

In an email after everyone left court, Kessler said: "Sorry, not commenting."

Lawyers for the NFL did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Goodell suspended Brady after concluding he "knew about, approved of, consented to, and provided inducements and rewards" to support a scheme in which a Patriots employee deflated balls on game day. Brady insists he knew nothing about it.

LeBron: Health, family will determine 2016 Olympic plans

LAS VEGAS (AP)—LeBron James said Wednesday his health and his family will determine whether he tries for a record third basketball Olympic gold medal next summer.

James took part in USA Basketball's minicamp, satisfyin chairman Jerry Colangelo´s mandate that anyone wanting to be considered for the 2016 roster show up this week in Las Vegas.

James suited up in a No. 27 jersey and worked out, though he won't play in the Americans' intrasquad exhibition Thursday because of a previous commitment back in Ohio.

The Cleveland Cavaliers All-Star could join Carmelo Anthony and Chris Paul as the only three-time gold medalists, and he and Anthony would be the first American men to appear in four Olympics. James says he's "not penciling it in, as of now, for next summer" and that his decision may not come until after next season.

"All my decisions go through my family. We'll see how my family feels about it," James said. "And then with my health, going nother NBA campaign season, as far as my team back home in Cleveland, and I'll go from there."

He first played for the Americans in the 2004 Olympics, when he and Anthony were part of the disappointing bronze medalists following their rookie seasons. That duo and Paul, all close friends, are the only players in camp this week who competed in both 2008 and 2012, and could decide together whether they will try to make history.

"It'll probably be a joint decision," James said. "Pretty much everything that we do, for the most part, especially with Team USA, we kind of do together. We'll see what happens."

James also played with the Americans in the 2006 world basketball championship and the 2007 Olympic qualifying tournament. He said he enjoyed being back Wednesday and reconnecting with coaches and teammates.

"LeBron's made an amazing commitment to our country's basketball program, huge positive impact besides just winning," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said.

But all that basketball, plus his four straight trips to the NBA Finals, have put a heavy workload on the 30-year-old James. The Cavaliers will be favorites to get back to the finals next season, and James may feel he needs rest more than another medal.

For now, he's done what is necessary to give himself the option if he wants it.

LEE

From Page 28

finals, Lee was happy with her accomplishment in the Grade 5 tournament.

"I was happy and proud of myself because I have never been into the semifinals of the ITF Juniors event before," Lee said.

The Saipan Community School student also joined the doubles event of the same competition, but she and Rengiil bowed to Australia's Emily Price and Daniela Kovacevic. Lee and Rengiil won the opening set, 6-3, but dropped the last two, 3-6, 2-10.

Meanwhile, Lee also played in the Oceania Closed Junior Championships 2015, which was held in Fiji too, from Aug. 4 to 8.

The CNMI bet managed to make it past the opening round after topping Australia's Monique Belovukovic, 6-2, 6-2, before falling to Australia's Michaela Haet, 5-7, 1-6, in the second round. In the doubles, Lee teamed up anew with Rengiil and they lost to Husrefovic and Jessica Zaviacic of Australia in the first round, 5-7, 4-6.

Lee is still in Fiji and will be reunited with 13 other CNMI players as they anchor the North Pacific Team's campaign in next week's Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

BLUE

From Page 28

to the power crisis on Saipan, which was hit by Typhoon Soudelor last Aug. 2.

Ten squads are competing in the second edition of the league with Mariana Resort, Tan Holdings, Saipan Ice & Water, Docomo Pacific, and Micronesian Brokers, Inc./KFC winning their debuts. Joeten, McDonald's, Cape Air, Top Development, Inc., and Commonwealth Utilities Corp. are the other teams entered in the JP World caging. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

ERICO

From Page 28

26:17 in the next 16K, and 1:02:34 and 26:22 in the last two splits (32K and 13K), respectively.

In the run leg, the young CNMI triathlete submitted 2:43:11 with a pace of between six and nine minutes per kilometer.

"The run leg was a two-loop course that stretched from Shangri-La to Punta Engaño. The run was outstanding with so many people cheering to keep athletes going. There were water stations every 1-2.5K. It was almost like running along Beach Road," Castro said. "I wish to do this race again in the future, with a faster time."

Meanwhile, Castro thanked the following for making his participation in Cobra Ironman 70.3 Philippines possible: Mamiko and Joshua Berger, Fr. Ryan Jimenez, Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation, Saipan Cyclers, Saipan Swim Club, Island Rent A Car, Ida Debrum, Swim. Bike. Run. Saipan, Triple J Wholesale, Pacific Islands Club, Mariana Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Fishing Tackle, Gold Ribbon, Sand Castle, Carol-Lyn Pierce, Pacific Trading Co., and 360 Restaurant.

Cobra Ironman 70.3 Philippines is one of the series of long distances races World Triathlon Corporation organizes every year. Each race draws pros and amateur triathletes around the world with Tim Reed of Australia and Switzerland's Caroline Steffen topping the Philippine stop. Reed was the overall finisher and men's pro division champion after clocking in at 3:46:03 with split times of 22:57, 2:03:21, and 1:16:35, while Steffen ruled the women's field after logging 4:23:30 (split times of 24:01, 2:25:44, and 1:30:25).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	63	52	.548	—
New York	61	51	.545	½
Tampa Bay	58	56	.509	4½
Baltimore	57	56	.504	5
Boston	50	64	.439	12½

Central Division

Kansas City	68	45	.602	—
Minnesota	57	56	.504	11
Detroit	55	59	.482	13½
Chicago	54	58	.482	13½
Cleveland	53	59	.473	14½

West Division

Houston	62	53	.539	—
Los Angeles	59	54	.522	2
Texas	55	57	.491	5½
Seattle	54	61	.470	8
Oakland	51	64	.443	11

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

New York	62	52	.544	—
Washington	58	55	.513	3½
Atlanta	51	63	.447	11
Miami	46	68	.404	16
Philadelphia	46	69	.400	16½

Central Division

St. Louis	73	40	.646	—
Pittsburgh	65	46	.586	7
Chicago	64	48	.571	8½
Cincinnati	50	62	.446	22½
Milwaukee	48	67	.417	26

West Division

Los Angeles	64	50	.561	—
San Francisco	60	53	.531	3½
Arizona	56	57	.496	7½
San Diego	54	61	.470	10½
Colorado	47	65	.420	16

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Volunteers Clean Up Oleai Sports Complex

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shirley's Coffee Shop's Erick Dela Rosa pushes the wheelbarrow carrying dried tree branches and leaves that were scattered around the parking lot of the Oleai Sports Complex during a cleanup drive last Tuesday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers enjoy a light moment as they near completion of the cleaning work at the parking lot of the Oleai Sports Complex.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A cleaner parking lot emerges after hours of cleaning from volunteers.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers are busy picking up leaves and tree branches that dropped down the track and field facility at the height of Typhoon Soudelor.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Volunteers sweep the debris that litter the parking lot of the Oleai Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMIFA president Jerry Tan joins volunteers in cleaning the parking lot of the Oleai Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Soccer School's Angie Ito was among the volunteers who did clearing and cleaning jobs at the Oleai Sports Complex for two days.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI U15 training pool clean the Oleai track and field facility.

Iwakuma tosses no-hitter in Seattle's win over Orioles

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Judge puts NFL on hot seat as he belittles 'Deflategate'

PAGE 26

Lee surpasses goal in ITF Juniors event

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI junior tennis player Carol Lee more than lived up to her expectations in the Oceania Open Junior Championships 2015 held in Lautoka, Fiji late last month.

Lee made it to the semifinals of the girls U18 singles to barge into the Final Four of an ITF Juniors event for the first time since joining the circuit this year.

"I expect myself to at least get into the quarterfinals, so at first I couldn't really believe that I made it to the semifinals," the 13-year-old player said.

Lee advanced to the semifinals of the competition held from July 27 to Aug. 1 after sweeping Hong Kong's Justine Sophie Leong in their quarterfinals showdown in the upper half of the draw, 6-1, 6-2. In the earlier rounds, the unranked Lee dominated Australia's Emily Thompson, 6-1, 6-0, and then stunned the third-seeded Stella Cliffe, also of Australia, 6-0, 6-3, to earn a Round of 8 slot.

With her three wins, Lee arranged a semis duel against another seeded foe in Hong Kong's Claudia Ng, who was ranked fifth in the draw. The Hong Kong bet went on to end Lee's streak after notching a 6-3, 6-2 victory in the semifinals. Ng eventually topped the event following a 7-5 (6), 6-1 victory over the second-ranked Ella Husrefovic of Australia. Husrefovic took the other finals berth after eliminating Lee's fellow Pacific Oceania player Ayana Rengiil of Palau in the bottom draw semifinals, 6-3, 6-0.

Despite losing in the semi-

See LEE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee, seen here competing in an ITF Juniors event held on Saipan in May this year, made it to the semifinals of another ranking tournament in Fiji last month.

Erico survives 'Cobra'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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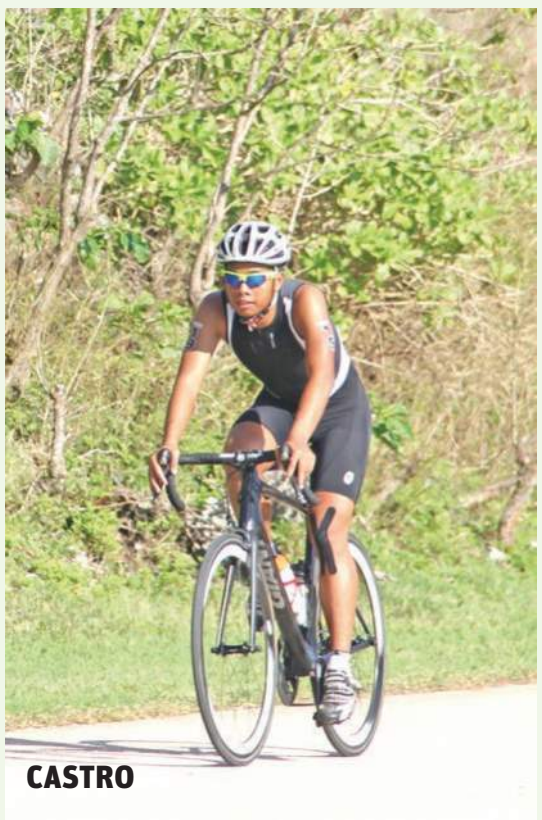
REPORTER

Young triathlete Erico Castro completed his debut in the Cobra Ironman 70.3 Philippines, finishing the grueling race held in Cebu last Aug. 2 under seven hours.

The 17-year-old Castro capped the 1.9-kilometer swim, 90K bike, and 21.1K run event in 6:30.44 to rank No. 20 out of more than 40 participants in his division (men's 18 to 24). Overall, he was at No. 522 out of nearly 2,000 finishers and at No. 433 in the men's division.

"The race really tested my endurance because it was so hot. It is also the first race I joined where people lined up on the side of the road cheering everyone throughout the entire race. It was a fun experience and I got to meet new friends and see what this sport is all about," the Marianas High School student said.



CASTRO

The race started and ended at Shangri-La Mactan with Castro getting off to a slow start because of crowded swim course.

"The swim leg was a bit difficult because the current was pushing me back for the 800m part. I had people kicking, pushing, and hitting me. It was a challenge passing other people too because I have to push them out of the way," said Castro, who completed the two-loop swim in 50:31.

In the bike leg, Castro had the wind to hurdle in the early stages of the race before he managed to cruise down back to Shangri-La.

"The bike was a long flat course from Shangri-La to Talisay City. I had head wind going to the city, so it slowed me down a bit, but going back wasn't much of a challenge. The road was mostly smooth and there were water stops every 20K," the XTERRA Saipan and Tagaman Triathlon veteran said.

Castro finished the 90K bike race in 2:47:45, posting 52.22 in the first 29K,

See ERICO on Page 26

Blue Haus/IT&E caging resumes; 2 others suspended

The 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League will return to action tonight at the Navy Hill court, while two other hoops competitions are still suspended pending the restoration of power on Saipan.

Blue Haus/IT&E caging coordinator Sam Fernandez said only one game will be played at the Navy Hill court today with Pasion de Amor (Orange Team) of Elmer Esdrelon and Red Rice (Red Team) of Darwin Barbo colliding in the 5pm tussle. The continuation of the game between Makalaro Lang and Hard Kulangot, which played during the league opener last Aug. 1, will be rescheduled on a later date.

Fernandez added that the league will resume with its two-game format per playing day this Saturday and Sunday with matches to be set earlier due to the unavailability of power. Pairings for the Saturday and Sunday matches will be determined via draw among the five other teams competing in the inaugural league.

Meanwhile, 2015 Gualo Rai Invitational Basketball League coordinator Jojo Garon said games are still suspended until the power condition on the island normalizes.

The league also opened last Aug. 1, but the game between Jake's Catering and Hashtag was cut short by rain. Jake's Catering was ahead at halftime, 41-29. Six other teams are entered in the league being played at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Over at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium, matches in the 2nd JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League are also on hold due

See BLUE on Page 26

JON PEREZ
A Joeten player stops on a fastbreak play as he is being chased by a McDonald's defender during an earlier game in the JP World caging last month at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.